

Norway seizes second Greenpeace ship in three days

OSLO (AFP) — The Norwegian coast guard seized a Greenpeace vessel Sunday for interfering with a whaling hunt in the second such action in three days. The coast guard said the ship, the *Solo*, was heading south-west of Oslo, where it was expected to arrive Saturday to be turned over to police. The *Solo* was a vessel, the *Sirius*, in the area. Police said the *Solo* was interfering with a whaling hunt by a ship called the *Solo*, which has several times been the target of Greenpeace anti-whaling efforts. The vessel was arrested and the vessel's crew was taken to the coast guard station. Three coast guard vessels boarded the *Solo*, and one of them threw a tear gas canister at the vessel. Fourteen activists boarded the *Solo* and took control. Norwegian authorities on Thursday confirmed the *Solo* was an unlicensed length of time after a recent July 20 between Norwegian whalers and Greenpeace. Both ships will remain in the hands of the Norwegian authorities at the end of the whaling season in mid-August in order to allow the whalers to meet their quotas, police said. Norway passed a law last week to protect whaling vessels, allowing fines to be levied on boats trying to prevent whaling by damaging equipment or merely interfering. Following weeks of skirmishes, the Norwegian coast guard also recently given increased police authority to prevent whaling.

Former Premier Heath slams 'far right'

LONDON (AFP) — Former British premier Sir Edward Heath slammed "far right" ministers who escaped a chop and consolidated their grip on power in the cabinet reshuffle. Writing in the populist weekly *News of the World*, Sir Edward criticises the "attitude" and "aggression" of some of the ministers. He was particularly critical of Home Secretary Michael Howard, whose form of the legal system, Criminal Justice Bill, has been delayed by fierce debate in the upper chamber. He also attacked two ministers who are shaping up to be the new Home Secretary, Michael Howard, and Social Security Secretary Peter Lilley. "Their extreme right-wing views sometimes lead one to wonder whether they are any compensation for the unemployment and social problems which are all caused by the inherent lethargy of individual ministers."

NASA's robot grounded by low clouds

MOUNT SPURR, Alaska (AFP) — A U.S. Army helicopter taking NASA's robot to the 23,000-foot summit of Mount Spurr, declaring an emergency at the active volcano at least a day. Plans called for the robot to make a 30-minute descent on a 30-minute ascent. A stream of ash and gas, a temperature and pressure gauge, and a hydrogen sulfide gas detector were sent down the mountain. The robot was taken half way to the summit on Saturday. The clearing on Saturday was a space agency said it was station two men to complete the 51,000-foot climb. NASA said the robot would be used to reach the peak again on Sunday. Scientists hope to send the robot to test the volcano on a tough terrain. The robot is one day to use similar robots to map and probe volcanoes and planets and moons.

Arafat hails Washington Declaration

GAZA CITY (AFP) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat welcomed a joint declaration signed Monday by King Hussein and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin in Washington aimed at formally ending 46 years of war. "I appreciate very much what has been done and I congratulate" President Bill Clinton, King Hussein and Mr. Rabin, Mr. Arafat said here. The monarch and Mr. Rabin signed a declaration effectively ending 46 years of war and paving the way to a full peace treaty. "This is a continuation of the peace process, for an everlasting peaceful solution in the whole area," Mr. Arafat told reporters at an inauguration ceremony for a temporary port in Gaza. Mr. Arafat expressed hope that Syria and Lebanon would follow suit, and said the declaration would also help with Israeli-Palestinian negotiations.

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Christopher plans another Mideast trip

WASHINGTON (AFP) — U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher announced Monday that he will make another visit to the Middle East in the first half of August to encourage peace talks between Israel and Syria. "We will continue working hard on that track," Mr. Christopher said when asked what the chances were of Israel and Syria reaching a peace accord by the end of the year. "I am returning to the region some time during the first half of August. We will see if we can make some progress then," he told a White House news conference after Israel and Jordan had signed a declaration ending 46 years of hostilities. Mr. Christopher also said it was possible that the United States would write off Jordan's existing debt. Mr. Christopher said that the administration had already started discussions of easing Jordan's debt burden with key members of Congress. President Bill Clinton telephoned Syrian President Hafez Al Assad shortly after King Hussein and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin signed the Washington Declaration on the White House lawn Monday, a high-ranking administration official said.

Jordan, Israel sign Washington Declaration

King declares end to state of war ● Rabin says document closest to peace treaty

Open borders for tourists, phone and power grids to be linked and talks to be held on boycott

Israel pledges to give priority to Jordan's historic role in Jerusalem

By Jordan Times Staff with agency dispatches

WASHINGTON — His Majesty King Hussein and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin signed here Monday an historic declaration ending 46 years of war and bringing them closer to a peace treaty. The Washington Declaration, which was also signed by U.S. President Bill Clinton, was ratified after the first summit between a Jordanian monarch and an Israeli leader at the White House.

"What we have accomplished and we are committed to is the end to the state of war between Jordan and Israel," King Hussein said after the signing.

"We have been able to take an historic step which we hope and pray will be to the benefit of our peoples within our entire region, Jordanians, Israelis and others," the monarch said.

"This is the moment of a commitment and of a vision," he added.

Sitting at the same desk used in 1979 for the peace treaty between Egypt and Israel and last September to establish Palestinian self-rule, King Hussein and Mr. Rabin promised "to bring an end to bloodshed and sorrow" between Jordan and Israel.

The King parted Mr. Rabin on the shoulder and they shook hands.

The King, who saw his grandfather, King Abdullah assassinated in 1951, defied today's extremists with a step designed to lead to a peace treaty. Glancing towards Mr. Rabin, who commanded Israeli forces in the 1967 war, King Hussein promised "we will meet as often as we are able and as required to shepherd this process."

Americans, Israelis and Jordanians sat on metal folding chairs, rapt by the history unfolding before them. They applauded every assertion of goodwill, and some fanned themselves to break the still air.

One of the most important

elements in the Washington Declaration, which officials said should be considered not as a declaration of principles but a summary of what has been happening in the past two and a half years of negotiations, is a clear Israeli undertaking to respect the "special role of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan in Muslim holy shrines in Jerusalem."

"When negotiations on the permanent status will take place, Israel will give high priority to the Jordanian historic role in these shrines," the declaration says (see full text).

The King was visibly overcome by emotions. "Out of all the days of my life, I do not believe there is one such as this in terms of the feelings, the emotions relating to a long, long struggle in memory of those who passed away, the memories of the victims of war, feelings towards the present and the future, feelings of responsibility towards generations to come in Israel and Jordan, all the Arab World and our entire region," he said.

Mr. Clinton, outlining details of the document on the South Lawn of the White House before the three leaders signed it, said that it aimed to end "generations of hostility, blood and tears."

The leaders of Israel and Jordan were declaring "with the world as their witness that they have solemnly ended the state of belligerency between them and pledging to settle their differences 'by peaceful means,'" Mr. Clinton said.

"Under the Washington Declaration, Jordan and Israel have agreed to continue vigorous negotiations to reach a peace treaty and the two leaders have agreed to personally meet as often as it takes to seal an agreement," Mr. Clinton said.

They also agreed to take steps to normalise relations and resolve by peaceful means disputes over issues ranging from water to the border.

"As of today, Jordan and Israel have agreed to take the first practical steps to draw

their people together," Mr. Clinton said, with the introduction of direct telephone links, electricity grids and an international air corridor.

Jordan and Israel would also discuss an end to economic boycotts, cooperate in crime fighting, notably against drugs, and open new border crossings.

"The declaration we have signed just now here in Washington is the closest thing to a treaty of peace," Mr. Rabin said after the signing ceremony on the South Lawn of the White House.

"Even though our work has not yet ended, it is my hope and belief that not long from today we shall return to sign a final and permanent treaty of peace."

King Hussein and Mr. Rabin paid tribute to the United States, particularly Mr. Clinton, for its efforts in reaching a Middle East peace agreement.

"Millions of eyes all over the world are watching us with great relief and great joy," Mr. Rabin said.

"Another nightmare of war may be over."

Before meeting in the White House to put the finishing touches on the declaration, Mr. Rabin and King Hussein greeted each other with a handshake and a warm smile.

Mr. Rabin said their handshake "symbolises much more than two people who no longer take up arms against one another." He said he looked forward to the day when such greetings would become routine.

"Your Majesty, the entire state of Israel is shaking your hand," he told King Hussein. Welcoming them to the White House, President Clinton said, "On this morning of promise these visionary statesmen from ancient lands have chosen to heal the rift that for too long has divided their lands."

The warmth between Mr. Rabin and King Hussein was in sharp contrast to the restraint when Mr. Rabin met Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat at the White House last September.

On that occasion Mr. Arafat held out his hand and Mr. Rabin hesitated before grasping it.

Before the White House ceremony, Secretary of State Warren Christopher said the declaration Mr. Rabin and King Hussein would sign "moves the parties much closer together."

"It is really a day for the history books," Mr. Christopher said on television. "We're going to transform the landscape of the Middle East."

With U.S. help, Israeli and Jordanian officials Sunday night negotiated the language of the declaration.

Mr. Christopher said it "accelerates the process towards a peace treaty."

"I think it's a matter of months until there's a formal peace agreement between the two of them," Mr. Christopher said. "Much of the groundwork will be laid out in the joint declaration (Monday)."

President Clinton: History is made when brave leaders find the power to escape the past and create a new future. Today, two such leaders come together as we welcome King Hussein and Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin to the White House on this extraordinary occasion.

On this morning of promise, these visionary statesmen from ancient lands have chosen to heal the rift that for too long have divided their peoples. They have seen the outlines of a better day, where others have seen darkness; they have sought peace in place of violence. On both sides of the River Jordan, there have lived generations of people who thought this day would never come. King Hussein and Prime Minister Rabin have reached out to each other across the river to build a future where hatred gives way to hope.

The Koran instructs us,



His Majesty King Hussein and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin shake hands as U.S. President Bill Clinton looks on at the White House Monday (AFP photo)

Critics of peace process on low wavelength as summit is held

By Ayman Al Safadi Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — On what the opposition declared a day of "national mourning" there were no black flags in the streets of the capital. Nor were there signs of any popular anger about His Majesty King Hussein's first public meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

The only exception to the normalcy of life in the capital and other cities in the Kingdom was a one-hour sit-in in downtown Amman attended by about 200 representatives of eight political parties and some professional unions.

The sit-in, which followed a week of fiery statements by the Islamic Action Front (IAF) and other leftists and pan-Arab parties urging the mobilisation of the people against what they called the subjugation to Israeli and

American dictates, represented a "symbolic opposition" to the latest developments in the peace process. The sit-in declared Monday a "black day in the history of our nation." But its organisers presented no evidence that this view is shared by the majority of the Jordanian people. All indications in the capital Monday were that the people did not see in the Washington summit the gloomy implications that the opposition tried to propagate.

IAF sources say they opted for this "symbolic opposition" to show the government that they can voice their rejection of the developments in the peace process in a "constitutional, legal and civilised way."

Analysts, however, say the Islamists and other opposition parties opted for low-profile expression of their

stand to avoid direct, and definitely losing, confrontation with the regime, especially that the King is personally involved in the negotiations.

By restricting their opposition to fiery statements, which reached a limited number of people, and the short-lived sit-in in Amman, the Islamists were making a stand for history, observers say.

By issuing the statements, the opposition can say they took a stand against the peace talks in harmony with their rejection of peace with Israel; and by limiting their opposition to a symbolic one, they avoided a confrontation with the regime.

Though they attacked the government for preventing the "other point of view from reaching the people," the opposition said the government did not interfere in the sit-in though it showed re-

servations about its time and place. IAF spokesman Hamzeh Mansour told the Jordan Times the decision to restrict the sit-in to one of "symbols and not a popular rally" was taken by the leadership of the parties that organised it.

But in a sign of the division among the Islamists on how to react to the Washington summit, hawkey IAF Deputy Hamman Said charged the "government did everything to prevent the sit-in from materialising."

Despite assertions by Mr. Mansour that the opposition has "a programme for its activities to express its rejection" of what is happening on the Jordanian-Israeli track of the peace negotiations, Dr. Said said the "opposition's reaction does not correspond with the gravity and serious-

(Continued on page 12)

Washington Declaration sets the way for peace agreement

Following is the full text of the Washington Declaration signed by His Majesty King Hussein and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin on Monday

The Washington Declaration

July 25, 1994

A. After generations of hostility, blood and tears and in the wake of years of pain and wars, His Majesty King Hussein and Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin are determined to bring an end to bloodshed and sorrow. It is in this spirit that His Majesty King Hussein of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the prime minister and minister of defence, Mr. Yitzhak Rabin of Israel, met in Washington today at the invitation of President William J. Clinton of the United States of America. The initiative of President William J. Clinton constitutes an historic landmark in the United States' untiring efforts in promoting peace and stability in the Middle East. The personal involvement of the president has made it possible to realise agreement on the content of this historic declaration. The signing of this declaration bears testimony to the president's vision and devotion to the cause of peace.

B. In their meeting, His Majesty King Hussein and Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin have jointly reaffirmed the five underlying principles of their understanding on an agreed common agenda designed to reach the goal of a just, lasting and comprehensive peace between the Arab states and the Palestinians, with Israel.

1. Jordan and Israel aim at the achievement of a just, lasting and comprehensive peace between Israel and its neighbours and at the conclusion of a treaty of peace between both countries.

2. The two countries will vigorously continue their negotiations to arrive at a state of peace, based on Security

Council resolutions 242 and 338 in all their aspects, and founded on freedom, equality and justice.

3. Israel respects the present special role of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan in Muslim holy shrines in Jerusalem. When negotiations on the permanent status will take place, Israel will give high priority to the Jordanian historic role in these shrines. In addition, the two sides have agreed to act together to promote interfaith relations among the three monotheistic religions.

4. The two countries recognise their right and obligation to live in peace with each other as well as with all states within secure and recognised boundaries. The two states affirmed their respect for and acknowledgement of the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of every state in the area.

5. The two countries desire to develop good neighbourly relations of cooperation between them to ensure lasting security and to avoid threats and the use of force between them.

C. The long conflict between the two states is now coming to an end. In this spirit, the state of belligerency between Jordan and Israel has been terminated.

D. Following this declaration and in keeping with the agreed common agenda both countries will refrain from actions or activities by either side that may adversely affect the security of the other or may prejudice the final outcome of negotiations. Neither side will threaten the other by use of force, weapons or any other means against each other and both sides will thwart threats to security resulting from all kinds of terrorism.

E. His Majesty King Hussein and Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin took note of the progress made in the bilateral negotiations within the Jordan-Israel track last week on the steps decided to implement the sub-agendas on borders, territorial matters, security, water, energy, environment and the Jordan Rift Valleys. In this framework, mindful of items of the agreed common agenda (borders

and territorial matters) they noted that the boundary sub-commission has reached agreement in July 1994 in fulfillment of part of the role entrusted to it in the sub-agenda. They also noted that the sub-commission for water, environment and energy agreed to mutually recognise, as the role of their negotiations, the rightful allocations of the two sides in Jordan River and Yarmouk River waters and to fully respect and comply with the negotiated rightful allocations, in accordance with agreed acceptable principles with mutually acceptable quality.

Similarly, His Majesty King Hussein and Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin expressed their deep satisfaction and pride in the work of the trilateral commission in its meeting held in Jordan on Wednesday, July 20, 1994, hosted by the Jordanian prime minister, Dr. Abdul Salam Majali, and attended by Secretary of State Warren Christopher and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres. They voiced their pleasure at the association and commitment of the United States in this endeavour.

F. His Majesty King Hussein and Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin believe that steps must be taken to both overcome psychological barriers and to break with the legacy of war. By working with optimism towards the dividends of peace for all the people in the region, Jordan and Israel are determined to shoulder their responsibilities towards the human dimension of peacemaking. They recognise imbalances and disparities are a root cause of extremism which thrives on poverty and unemployment and the degradation of human dignity. In this spirit, His Majesty King Hussein and Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin have today approved a series of steps to symbolise the new era which is now at hand.

1. Direct telephone links will be opened between Jordan and Israel.

2. The electricity grids of Jordan and Israel will be linked as part of a regional concept.

3. Two new border crossings will be opened between Jordan and Israel — one at the southern tip of Aqaba-Eilat

and the other at a mutually agreed point in the north.

4. In principle free access will be given to third country tourists travelling between Jordan and Israel.

5. Negotiations will be accelerated on opening an international air corridors between both countries.

6. The police forces of Jordan and Israel will cooperate in combating crime with emphasis on smuggling and particularly drug smuggling. The United States will be invited to participate in this joint endeavour.

7. Negotiations on economic matters will continue in order to prepare for future bilateral cooperation including the abolition of all economic boycotts.

All these steps are being implemented within the framework of regional infrastructural development plans and in conjunction with the Jordan-Israel bilateral on boundaries, security, water and related issues and without prejudice to the final outcome of the negotiations on the items included in the agreed common agenda between Jordan and Israel.

G. His Majesty King Hussein and Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin have agreed to meet periodically or whenever they feel necessary to review the progress of the negotiations and express their firm intention to shepherd and direct the process in entirety.

H. In conclusion, His Majesty King Hussein and Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin wish to express once again their profound thanks and appreciation to President William J. Clinton and his administration for their untiring efforts in furthering the cause of peace, justice and prosperity for all the peoples of the region. They wish to thank the president personally for his warm welcome and hospitality. In recognition of their appreciation to the president, His Majesty King Hussein and Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin have asked President William J. Clinton to sign this document as a witness and as a host to their meeting. His Majesty King Hussein/Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin/President William J. Clinton.

U.S. to rule soon on Saudi diplomat's request for asylum

NEW YORK (R) — The United States will decide soon whether to grant asylum to a Saudi diplomat who claims that Washington's closest Arab ally was bankrolling a secret nuclear weapons programme with Iraq, his lawyer said Sunday.

"We are expecting a decision shortly... within weeks," lawyer Michael Wildes told Reuters.

Mr. Wildes said Mohammad Al Khilewi, who has been in hiding near New York since fleeing Saudi Arabia's mission to the United Nations in May to seek political asylum, had increased security precautions since a new warning Friday from a U.S. government agency of a plot by the Saudi government to kidnap him and his family.

"I received a telephone call late Friday afternoon from a security/intelligence agency which informed me that they had come upon information that there was a plot to kidnap him and return him to Saudi Arabia," Mr. Wildes said.

He said the U.S. agency told him there appeared to be a difference of opinion among Saudi rulers as to whether Mr. Khilewi, the highest-ranking Saudi official to turn against his country's government, should be kidnapped.

Saudi agents after the Gulf war seized Mohammad Al Fassi, a dissident member of the royal family wanted in Riyadh on corruption charges, from Jordan and spirited him to prison in Saudi Arabia, Western diplomats and Saudi sources say.

Mr. Khilewi, a nuclear expert who was second in command at the U.N. mission, revealed after he fled the embassy that he has 13,000 documents which he says show a pattern of corruption, terrorism and human rights abuses by Riyadh, Washington's Gulf war partner and one of its biggest oil suppliers.

In his latest bombshell, he told the Sunday Times newspaper he had transcripts of

meetings and other documents showing that Saudi Arabia helped fund Iraq's nuclear programme as part of a secret 20-year campaign by Riyadh to acquire its own nuclear weapons.

At a 1989 meeting which Mr. Khilewi attended the Saudis pledged funding for Iraq's nuclear programme and handed over specialised equipment Iraq could obtain nowhere else, the paper said.

According to the Sunday Times, the documents showed the Saudi rulers had given Iraq up to \$5 billion for its nuclear programme.

There was no way to authenticate the documents and U.S. officials had no immediate comment.

A spokesman for the Saudi embassy in London said he could not comment while British Foreign Office officials said they had not seen the newspaper report.

Washington and Riyadh formed a major Western-Arab coalition to drive Iraqi troops from Kuwait in the 1991 Gulf war and later went to great effort to help ensure that Iraq's nuclear weapons programme was permanently dismantled.

Mr. Wildes said he did not expect any more meetings between Mr. Khilewi and U.S. immigration officials, whom the lawyer said took the unprecedented step of interviewing the Saudi diplomat outside their immigration offices for security reasons.

The U.S. decision is seen by human rights groups as a key test of American Riyadh, which is also one of the biggest arms buyers of American arms.

Human rights laws adopted by Washington require the United States to grant asylum to anyone who faces a well-founded fear of persecution if returned to their own country.

Washington almost never openly criticises Saudi Arabia, a closed and conservative kingdom under fire from human rights watchers.



HISTORIC TURN: Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin (left), U.S. President Bill Clinton (right) and His Majesty King Hussein stand on the podium during ceremonies in the Rose Garden of the White House on Wednesday. King Hussein and Mr. Rabin later signed a declaration of peace designed to end hostilities between the two countries (AFP photo)

Israel reportedly delaying permits for hardliners

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Israel is holding back the entry of several dozen members of the Palestinian Central Council (PCC) despite having issued permission in principle since the factions they belong to oppose the autonomy accord, Palestinian sources said Monday.

They said the PCC members were calling daily at the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) mission here seeking work on their entry to the autonomous areas of Jericho and Gaza Strip.

Israel informed the PLO last month that it had approved in principle a list of over 100 of them PCC members, to enter the autonomous territories, but have not sent the full list to the PLO, the sources said.

"The Israelis are sending a few names every now and then, keeping everyone guessing," said one source. "It seems that they are giving preferential treatment to our comrades in Fatah and relegating others."

That was a reference to the mainstream PLO group headed by Yasser Arafat which supports the Israel-PLO autonomy accord.

Other factions which are represented in the PCC but oppose the self-rule deal include the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), the second and third largest PLO factions after Fatah.

Only a handful of PFLP and DFLP have been allowed into Jericho and Gaza since autonomy began in May, the Palestinian source said.

"There are nearly 40 members of the committee still awaiting Israeli permission to go in," said the source.

PLO officials said the matter was out of their hands. "The approval and permit have to come from the Israeli side, and as long as we don't receive it there is little we can do from Amman," said a PLO official.

"We see a dirty game played by Arafat," said a DFLP activist. "Apparently he wants Fatah people in place before allowing others because he feels that a strong presence of DFLP and PFLP in Gaza and Jericho will undermine his political base there."

But independent Palestinians disagreed. They said Mr. Arafat had little control over Israeli approvals for entry of Palestinians and that it was the Israelis who were delaying the entry of the hardliners.

"They even kept (Samir) Ghosheh waiting for weeks," said a Palestinian activist who said he did not belong to any faction. Mr. Ghosheh, head of the Popular Struggle Front (PSF), was allowed to go in only last week to assume office as minister of labour in the self-rule cabinet.

Mr. Ghosheh's group is critical of the self-rule deal, but it decided to accept Mr. Ghosheh's nomination to the autonomy cabinet "because it felt that it is better to work from within rather than being isolated," according to a PLO source.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said he would allow all members of Palestinian councils to enter Gaza and Jericho ahead of an expected meeting of the parliament-like Palestine National Council. But he has also said that some of them may not be allowed to stay on since they are directly implicated in violent resistance activities against Israel in the past.

Aideed men hold area around Mogadishu port

NAIROBI (Agencies) — Mogadishu warlord General Mohammed Farah Aideed's Somali National Alliance (SNA) says its gunmen control the area around the capital's U.N.-guarded port.

The announcement followed SNA-run radio followed clashes between the SNA and supporters of rival warlord Ali Mahdi Mohammed which killed at least two people and wounded six.

The radio said the SNA had taken control of the port area to ensure its smooth working, and no arms would be allowed to be brought in there. SNA units had cordoned off the area, it said.

Egyptian U.N. peacekeepers guard the seaport but have repeatedly come under fire in the past week from what U.N. officers said were disgruntled dock workers loyal to the SNA.

Radio Mogadishu, which supports Ali Mahdi Mohammed, reacted to the SNA announcement by condemning the move as sabotage of an agreement between the two factions to keep the seaport open.

The radio said the SNA was "closing the port whenever it wants and obstructing the flow of general traffic and the emergency relief services."

The statement accused the SNA of illegally levying taxes on traffic using the port, and called on U.N. peacekeepers to ensure the port and airport were available to everyone.

"We are waiting for a satisfactory explanation on this matter," it added, warning that "immediate and grave consequences" would follow if the situation continued.

The U.N. Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM), which has been avoiding direct confrontation with the rival factions since the march withdrawal of U.S. forces who became embroiled in clashes with Gen. Aideed's militia, made no immediate comment on the SNA move.

The clan-based feud between Aideed and Ali Mahdi supporters killed about 30,000 people after the ousting of dictator Mohammed Siad Barre in 1991. Famine caused by the war killed 10 times that number of Somalis.

During Saturday's clashes, stray shells crashed into U.N. compounds in Mogadishu.

U.N. military spokesman Major Zubair Chatta said rival militiamen fought with anti-tank rockets, cannon and small arms and three stray shells caused minor damage to U.N. vehicles.

A stray bullet wounded a Pakistani warrant officer, he said.

Although the fighting eased in the afternoon, roadblocks were in operation and large numbers of militiamen and technicals — vehicles mounted with medium to heavy calibre weapons — were seen on the streets of the capital.

U.S. military officials said the rival Mogadishu warlords appeared to be arming for wider clan warfare and there was no sign of a peace settlement.

The U.N. Security Council, bruised by its failure to bring peace to Somalia despite brokering peace talks, is to decide at the end of September whether to extend its mandate there or pull out.

Gunmen also ambushed a U.N. food convoy in Mogadishu on Sunday and hijacked two food trucks and a military vehicle.

A U.N. spokesman said no casualties had been reported from the ambush.

Spokesman Chatta said Sunday's ambush was at a notorious roadblock near a traffic circle, where an airport road enters central Mogadishu. Bangladeshi troops were escorting the convoy.

Sudan raises new border dispute in letter to U.N.

CAIRO (R) — Sudan has complained about Egypt to the U.N. Security Council, accusing the Cairo government of sending troops south of the 22nd Parallel and avoiding talks on a peaceful settlement of their disagreements.

The map shows that Egypt already had two military camps within a salient of territory which juts north of the 22nd Parallel and which most maps mark as Sudanese.

The Sudanese statement did not say when the Egyptians moved in but one Sudanese foreign ministry official mentioned the Argeen problem to reporters in Khartoum in June.

The Egyptian Foreign Ministry spokesman was not available to comment on the dispute but the Arabic-language international newspaper Al Hayat quoted him on Monday as saying Egypt did not intend to reply to the Sudanese allegations.

Abu Saleh said the Khartoum government had repeatedly invited the Egyptians to send a delegation to Khartoum to follow up a foreign ministers meeting in Cairo last July.

"Sudan has kept pressing for the meeting but the Egyptian side has not even taken the trouble to reply to the invitation," the Sudanese statement said.

Mr. Abu Saleh's letter also asks the Security Council to urge Egypt to enter into negotiations with Sudan on the dispute.

Egypt and Sudan have both claimed sovereignty over the Halaib area for some years but the dispute over the Argeen area is new and has been little publicised.

The statement, released by the Sudanese embassy in Cairo on Monday, said: "The Egyptian government has worked systematically to reinforce its presence not only in the disputed Halaib area but also, and for the first time, in the Argeen border area."

"(This is) south of the 22nd Parallel, which Egypt asserts divides the two countries, and it is an area which at no time in the past has been in dispute between the two countries."

According to a map sent by Reuters to the Sudanese embassy, Egypt has set a

Israel's arms industry tries converting to peace

By Dan Perry The Associated Press

TEL AVIV — Israel's most famous export has long been the Uzi, symbol of a country that not only lived by the sword, but perfected and sold it.

The compact, folding sub-machine gun became a weapon of choice for secret services, and extremists, around the world.

But now the global arms business is in a slump and Israel is pursuing peace with the Arabs, so what to do with an industry that was a leader in earning foreign currency?

A finance ministry report released last week showed record losses of almost \$1 billion for state-run arms companies in 1993, despite efforts to streamline and find new markets.

Many Israelis see the answer in converting military technology to civilian applications, the same challenge facing the United States, Russia and other countries with large military industries.

Reuven Krupik, an economist dedicated to conversion, said Israel can show the

way.

"We have this huge defence sector and we have a great need to convert it," he said. "Other countries haven't encountered the problem to this extent."

Computerised systems developed for military use are being adapted for products ranging from walkie-talkies to an anti-tailgating device that measures the distance between cars.

Lee Iacocca, the former Chrysler chairman, tested the device here last month and the maker, Silicon Heights, has installed it on a test car sent to the United States.

Such innovations were on Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's mind when he told the graduating class at the Israeli engineering university Technion: "We must find ways to shift more and more to entirely different fields in research and development. (Otherwise) tens of thousands of jobs will be lost."

In the United States, 1995 orders for military aircraft are down 86 per cent from a decade ago and the market for tanks has vanished, the U.S. publication Defence

News reported. The American aerospace industry has laid off 10 per cent of its workers.

Among Israeli companies, the largest 1993 loss — \$450 million — was recorded by Israel Aircraft Industries.

Moshe Ortasse, head of the electronics division, said it hoped to bounce back by selling business jets instead of fighters. The company developed an executive jet in the early 1980s and has sold several hundred.

"We hope civilian projects will constitute 40 per cent of our revenue in a few years," Mr. Ortasse said.

Aircraft industries also is developing a civilian satellite, Ofek, and a blood-cell scanner that uses radar technology for early cancer detection.

Mr. Ortasse sees the greatest potential in using Israel's experience with small military air bases to sell developing countries "radars, air traffic management and everything they need" for small airports.

Such plans come too late for the 3,000 aircraft industries employees, nearly one-fifth of the total, being laid off this year. The other state-

JORDAN TELEVISION	
Tel: 773111-19	
PROGRAMME TWO	
17:00	Envoy Special
18:30	News in French
18:45	Grands Galops
19:00	News in Hebrew
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Step By Step
22:00	News in English
22:20	Matrix
23:10	The Upper Hand
PRAYER TIMES	
04:11	Fajr
05:41	(Sunrise) Dhuhr
12:42	Dhuhr
16:23	Asr
19:43	Maghrib
21:13	Isha
CHURCHES	
St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swedish, Tel. 810740	
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632795	
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590	
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440	
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757	
Terrasanta Church Tel. 623346	
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541	
Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 678543	
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331	
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261	
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751	
Armenian International Church Tel. 625256	
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 624328	
German-speaking Evangelical Congregation Tel. 684195	
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 654932	
Church of Nazareth Tel. 675691	
The Evangelical Local Church in Amman Tel. 811295	
WEATHER	
Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.	
Normal summer weather conditions will prevail with winds north-westerly moderate to active. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and sea calm.	
Min./Max. temp. 20/32	
Aqaba 24/40	
Djersa 18/25	
Jordan Valley 23/38	
Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 33, Aqaba 41, Humidity readings: Amman 21 per cent, Aqaba 18 per cent.	

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENAER	
USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS	
NIGHT DUTY	
AMMAN:	
Dr. Hanna Mansour	750147
Dr. Farouq Nour	786681
Dr. Khaldoun Kibbi	816715
Dr. Abdul Rahim Mustafa	744685
Firas pharmacy	661912
Fordos pharmacy	778336
Al Asena pharmacy	637055
Nairooka pharmacy	624672
Al Salam pharmacy	636770
Yacoub pharmacy	649445
Shmeisani pharmacy	637660
Nairooka pharmacy	623672
Najib pharmacy	947632
IRBID:	
Dr. Mohammad Al Hilu	279773
Alquds pharmacy	(—)
ZARQA:	
Dr. Ghassan Al Faqih	906130
Khalifeh pharmacy	985417
EMERGENCIES	
Food Control Centre	637111
HOSPITALS	
AMMAN:	
Hussein Medical Centre	813813/32
Umm Al-Jawhara J. Amn	644281/6
Akileh Maternity, J. Amn	642441/2
Jabal Amman Maternity	642362
Malhas, J. Amman	636140
Palestine, Shmeisani	664171/4
Shmeisani Hospital	669131
University Hospital	848455
AI-Mushter Hospital	667277/9
Queen Alia Hospital	684100
Amal Hospital	674155
ZARQA:	
Zarqa Govt. Hospital	(09)983323
Zarqa National Hospital	(09)986732
Ibn Sina Hospital	(09)900560
Al-Hikma Modern Hospital	(09)987332
IRBID:	
Princess Basma Hospital	(03)725555
Greek Catholic Hospital	(03)722225
Ibn Al-Nafies Hospital	(02)247101
AQABA:	
Princess Haya Hospital	(05)314111
FOR THE TRAVELLER	
QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT	
19:30	Kiev (SU)
21:15	Beirut (ME)
23:15	Amsterdam (KL)
00:30	Bucharest (RO)
DEPARTURES	
Royal Jordanian (RJ)	
Flights (Terminal 1)	
08:00	Aqaba (RJ)
09:30	Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
12:00	Vienna, Frankfurt (RJ)
12:15	Montreal, Toronto (RJ)
12:35	Paris (RJ)
12:55	Geneva, Brussels (RJ)
13:45	Cairo (RJ)
13:55	Multishah
14:30	London (RJ)
14:45	Madrid (RJ)
20:45	Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
21:00	Larnaca (RJ)
21:30	Jeddah (RJ)
22:30	Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
22:59	Kuala Lumpur, Singapore (RJ)
Other Flights (Terminal 2)	
09:30	Beirut (add) (ME)
10:30	Larnaca, Rome (AZ)
12:00	Cairo (MS)
12:00	Khartoum (SD)
13:50	Vienna (OS)
14:30	Abu Dhabi, Al Ain (GF)
15:30	Riyadh (SV)
16:00	Damascus (AZ)
20:30	Kiev (SU)
01:30	Amsterdam (KL)
01:30	Bucharest (RO)

HIJAZ RAILWAY TRAIN	
Dep. Amman: 8:00 a.m. every Monday	
Arr. Damascus: 5:00 p.m. every Monday	
Dep. Damascus: 7:30 a.m. every Sunday	
Arr. Amman: 5:00 p.m. every Sunday	
MARKET PRICES	
Upper/lower price in fils per kg.	
Apple	600/500
Banana	600/500
Banana (Mukammal)	620
Cabbage	140/80
Carrot	240/180
Cauliflower	200/120
Cucumbers (large)	90/50
Cucumbers (small)	200/120
Eggplant	180/100
Fig	560/450
Grape	800/600
Grapes	400/300
Lemon	150/100
Marrow (large)	320/220
Marrow (small)	140/80
Mulshah	140/80
Okra	800/600
Orange	200/150
Onion (dry)	240/160
Sweet Melon	200/150
Pepper (hot)	280/200
Pepper (sweet)	250/180
Potato	420/300
Peaches	700/600
Tomato	110/70
String beans	250/200
Watermelon	120/70

Nigeria strike enters 4th week

LAGOS (Agencies) — Nigerian oil workers began a fourth week of strike action Monday as union and government delegations prepared for fresh talks aimed at ending the protests calling for the release of jailed pro-democracy leader Moshood Abiola.

Two rounds of talks between representatives of the federal military government with officials of the two striking unions and foreign oil producers were scheduled for Monday. National Union of Petroleum and Natural Gas Workers (NUPENG) President Wariebi Kojo Agamene told AFP.

The first would concentrate on "economic issues," notably the \$800 million debt owed by the government to foreign oil producing partners, while the second would be devoted entirely to the "political demands" of the oil workers, he said.

The unions involved in the talks are NUPENG and the Petroleum and Natural Gas Senior Staff Association of Nigeria (PENGASSAN). The unions have pledged to keep up their strike action until the release of Mr. Abiola, the presumed winner of annulled presidential elections in June last year. They are also pressing for his installation as Nigerian president.

While expressing the hope that the first meeting might "produce an understanding" between the parties involved, the NUPENG leader said he was not optimistic that government would come up with

"concrete commitments" on the workers' political demands.

"We are using the only weapon we have, that is strike action, as a potent means of achieving democracy while not ruling out completely the place of dialogue in the present political crisis," a PENGASSAN official told AFP Monday.

The trial of Mr. Abiola, currently being detained in the federal capital Abuja on charges of "treasonable felony" in to begin there this week.

The oil workers' strike, in addition to depriving Nigeria of millions of dollars in oil revenue, has paralysed the movement of people around the country because of fuel shortages.

Also Monday, press reports said that authorities had imposed a dusk-to-dawn curfew on Calabar in southeastern Nigeria following violent pro-democracy demonstrations in the city at the weekend.

More than 20 government vehicles were seized or damaged and shops were looted in the capital of Cross River state when vandals joined a peaceful student demonstration and it flared into violence, the press reports said.

Students and farmers have threatened to hold further protests on Monday in the city of Ibadan, north of Lagos.

Meanwhile, in a diplomatic overture, President Bill Clinton is dispatching U.S. civil rights leader Jesse Jackson to Nigeria as striking oil work-

ers protest the African nation's military rule.

Rev. Jackson will depart for Nigeria this week as part of a delegation that will deliver a message from Mr. Clinton to Nigeria's military ruler, Gen. Sani Abacha, regarding restoring democracy to the nation's 90 million people.

"For too long, the U.S. policy has been 'wait and see.' We can't wait," Rev. Jackson said Sunday. "We must not allow Nigeria to drift into civil war. It could be devastating."

Rev. Jackson is involved in part because of his associations with both Mr. Abiola and Nigeria's previous military ruler, Gen. Ibrahim Babangida, who nullified the election.

Gen. Babangida stepped down in August, but turned power over to a widely reviled interim government led by businessman Ernest Shonekan. Mr. Shonekan was ousted in November by Gen. Abacha, his defence minister.

Nigeria gets 90 per cent of its foreign currency earnings from oil exports. The strike has made gasoline scarce, paralyzing transportation and industry.

However, Nigerian human rights activists are opposed to Rev. Jackson's involvement, saying he is too closely aligned with Nigeria's military government.

Rev. Jackson said the opposition to his visit is based on a misunderstanding about a comment he had made more than a year ago and on

a "real fear" among Abiola supporters over what the United States' role would be in Nigeria.

During a visit to Gabon in May, 1993, Rev. Jackson praised Gen. Babangida for moving "with a steady beat" toward democracy.

But Rev. Jackson said Sunday that was before Gen. Babangida on June 12 negotiated the country's election. "We're not close to the military government. We are in disagreement with the annulment. I do not know all the internal politics that took place," he added.

Beko Ransome-Kuti, president of the Campaign for Democracy, the main opposition group in Nigeria, said Sunday that he now is receptive to the Jackson visit after previously having opposed it.

"He (Jackson) expressed the view that maybe he was misunderstood," Mr. Kuti said in a telephone interview from Lagos. "I'm quite convinced now he knows the position on the ground in Nigeria. We would be quite willing to tell him exactly what we feel the Nigerian people want."

Mobilaji Aluko, vice president of the Nigerian Democratic Movement, a United States-based group of Nigerian nationalists who work to promote democracy there, said the opposition to Rev. Jackson will likely dissipate.

"He can do nothing but good. It starts the process of direct engagement of the United States in Nigeria," Mr. Aluko explained.



Martin McGuinness (left) member of the Sinn Féin Executive Council, and Sinn Féin President Gerry Adams stand together at the end of the Sinn Féin conference (AFP photo)

Dublin disappointed by Sinn Féin vote on peace plan

DUBLIN (R) — The Irish government said Monday it was disappointed in a decision by the IRA's political wing Sinn Féin to basically reject an Anglo-Irish blueprint for peace in Northern Ireland.

Irish Foreign Minister Dick Spring said Sinn Féin was only pushing itself out of mainstream talks.

"They are bringing political isolation on themselves," he told Britain's Press Association news agency.

"Their leadership and the rest of us must be living in different worlds if they see what happened yesterday as a positive development."

A Foreign Ministry spokesman said no one was surprised by Sinn Féin's decision. "But the initial reaction is one of disappointment."

Sinn Féin delegates Sunday called the declaration, which called on the IRA to lay down its arms, a step in the peace process but said it was no solution.

The plan offered Sinn Féin a place at peace talks if the Irish Republican Army stopped fighting British rule in Northern Ireland.

"We had hoped they would find enough in the declaration to declare a cessation of violence," the Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

The Irish and British governments would continue to meet and try to find a solution for Northern Ireland, he added.

Irish opposition Fine Gael Party leader John Bruton said he thought the IRA had no intention of ever ending the violence.

"The British and Irish governments should now recognize that it was a mistake to waste time with Sinn Féin and proceed immediately to try to get talks on the future of Northern Ireland going between parties that do not use violence," he said.

"We have lost two years because of this mirage of Sinn Féin's cessation of violence."

At a special meeting in this small borderland town of Letterkenny in the Irish Republic, Sinn Féin delegates giving the party's first formal reply to the joint peace declaration said it did not offer enough and was contradictory, but could be a first step.

"We are all agreed that the declaration is a step, not a solution," Sinn Féin leader Gerry Adams told delegates.

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Solzhenitsyn set to speak his mind; meet Yeltsin

MOSCOW (R) — Writer Alexander Solzhenitsyn vowed Sunday to remain independent of rival political groups but said he could not keep silent about the suffering of post-Soviet Russia.

In his first television interview since returning to Moscow Thursday after a two-month train journey across Russia, Mr. Solzhenitsyn said he expected to meet President Boris Yeltsin.

"There will undoubtedly be a meeting," the 75-year-old Nobel Prize winner told Independent Television's Itog programme.

He said he had returned to Russia "as a writer" after 20 years in exile. "It is necessary to differentiate between social and political activity... I will not occupy any (political) posts," he said.

"(But) the misfortune of Russia is so great that no citizen can be indifferent to what is happening... I will say what I think is right and useful for Russia."

The remarks indicate that Mr. Solzhenitsyn would continue to assume the role of writer and moral arbiter familiar to Russian literature since the days of 19th century novelist Leo Tolstoy.

Mr. Solzhenitsyn has peppered his public comments since his return with sharp criticism of market reforms that have filled shops with goods but impoverished many and led to an explosion of crime.

The writer, author of books that portrayed the brutality of life in Soviet dictator Josef Stalin's labour camps, was exiled in 1974.

Sunday's interview took place at Mr. Solzhenitsyn's temporary flat in central Moscow. The writer plans to settle in the capital until a house being built for him on the outskirts of Moscow is completed.

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Quebec election fires new debate on independence

QUEBEC CITY (R) — The Canadian province of Quebec will go to the polls on Sept. 12 and the man expected to win, Jacques Parizeau, predicts the French-speaking province will be an independent country within a year.

Quebec's Liberal Premier Daniel Johnson said Sunday that a provincial election will be held in September, launching a fierce new debate on whether Quebec should secede from Canada.

Mr. Parizeau, whose separatist Parti Quebecois has a strong lead in public opinion polls over the Liberals, says he would begin right after the elections to work toward the party's goal of achieving independence for Quebec.

"We will start working the very day after the elections... We will conduct a referendum rapidly in order to achieve sovereignty for Quebec," Mr. Parizeau told a news conference.

The Parti Quebecois has promised to hold a referendum within eight to 10 months of its victory to see if Quebecers want their province — Canada's largest in area and second largest in population after Ontario —

to secede.

"In two months Quebec will have a new government and in one year Quebec will be a new country," Mr. Parizeau said Saturday.

A victory in the provincial election would be the second of a three-step plan Mr. Parizeau has mapped out toward separation. The first was getting a strong presence in Ottawa. Last fall the separatist Bloc Quebecois won enough votes to become the second largest party represented in parliament.

The last step would be a referendum victory.

But Mr. Johnson, who has only served as premier for six months and said the campaign is "the most important one" of his life, warned Quebecers to think seriously before voting.

"The people of Quebec will have to choose their destiny," Mr. Johnson said. "Quebecers will decide between two options: Separation or economic union."

Ever since French President Charles De Gaulle visited Montreal in 1967 and uttered the separatist rallying cry, "vive le Quebec libre" (long live free Quebec), there has been a fierce debate over

the province's place in Canada.

Quebecers rejected a plan to sever political links with Canada by a three-to-two margin in a divisive 1980 referendum which tore families and political alliances apart.

Since then the passion of the debate has subsided. But the Parti Quebecois hopes to profit from weariness among Quebecers after nine years of Liberal rule that has left a rising public debt, high taxes and unemployment hovering around 15 per cent.

Despite his legacy, Mr. Johnson, a strong supporter of keeping Quebec within Canada, said he would stress the improvement in the Quebec economy and job creation in the campaign.

Three major public opinion polls published just before the election announcement gave the Parti Quebecois a seven to 10 percentage point lead over the Liberals.

But the same surveys show Quebecers are ambivalent about whether they should seek a divorce from Canada.

A Leger Leger poll published last week showed that support for a separate Quebec has fallen recently, with about 46.5 per cent in

Indian army patrols massacre site

GUWAHATI, India (AFP) — Indian troops patrolled strife-torn Barmepa district in the far eastern state of Assam on Monday as a minister vowed to get the tribal militants who massacred 50 sleeping Muslim refugees.

Soldiers in battle fatigues fanned out around a refugee camp where the Muslims were killed by members of the outlawed Bodo Security Force (BSF) in Assam state Sunday.

"The army is in the area," a spokesman for the Assam state government said here.

"But there is a lot of tension and fear. We are urging the (camp) inmates not to move out."

The spokesman said fresh paramilitary contingents from New Delhi were on the way to Assam to beef up security.

Some 15 BSF gunmen raided the refugee camp at a village some 100 kilometres (62 miles) from here early Sunday, firing indiscriminately with automatic rifles and lobbing grenades. They tried to torch the camp before escaping.

At least 50 people were killed in the 40-minute attack. It left more than 100 others, including women and children, injured. Many were in serious condition in a hospital here.

Policemen guarding the camp managed to kill two of the assailants but later ran away, leaving the refugees to fend for themselves, witnesses said.

Distraught victims poured out their woes to three ministers, including Minister of State for Home Affairs Rajesh Pilot, who visited the area Sunday.

Zahuruddin, a 26-year-old Muslim man, told reporters that the Bodo gunmen began firing "from all directions."

"The 10 policemen guarding us tried to fight back but were outnumbered," he said. "They ran away."

"Terror-stricken people started running in all directions," he said. "People were screaming, there was total chaos."

"There was smoke and fire everywhere," he said. "(I, my wife and children) huddled in a corner and managed to save our lives. We later crawled to the outer periphery of the camp. Perhaps they (Bodos) left us for dead."

In New Delhi, Mr. Pilot, who cancelled a trip to Kashmir to rush to Assam after hearing of the cold-blooded attack, vowed to wage a "counter-offensive" against the BSF, which is fighting to set up a Bodo homeland.

"A counter-offensive must have already started," he told AFP after returning from Guwahati, where he held discussions with Assam Chief Minister Hiteswar Saikia and top army officers.

"It is the duty of the state government to wipe out these killers," he said. "We will take care of the BSF."

Mr. Pilot admitted that the state government, controlled by his own Congress (I) Party, was to blame for the camp's poor security.

Unfancied fillies romp home at 2,712 to one

TOKYO (R) — Gamblers betting on a genuine long shot cleaned up at a Japanese racetrack when two "no-hope" horses finished first and second at odds of 2,712 to one, the Japan Racing Association (JRA) said Monday. Some punters staked just 5,000 yen (\$51) on the unlikely combination result and walked away from Niigata Racetrack, in northern Japan, on Sunday with winnings of 13.56 million yen (about \$138,000). Neither of the two rank outsiders in the 15-horse 1,400-metre race had finished in the first 10 on their previous two outings, the JRA said.

New N. Korean leader wears high heels

TOKYO (R) — Kim Jong-Il, new leader of North Korea, is so sensitive about being short that he wears high-heeled shoes, a Japanese magazine reported Monday. Little is known for sure about the pudgy, mysterious Kim, who took the helm of the Stalinist state following the death of his father, President Kim Il-Sung, on July 8. Now, however, the weekly Shukan Bunshun reports that for years he has sent out aides looking for skilled shoemakers who could make him appear taller. The magazine also published two photographs clearly showing Kim Jong-Il wearing platform shoes. At first Mr. Kim had the shoes made in Switzerland and Austria, but later turned to artisans in his own country, the magazine said.

Chinese dwarf taller after operation

BEIJING (R) — A Chinese dwarf experienced a "miraculous" growth spurt after what the Workers' Daily Monday called an unprecedented transplant operation. Tian Yu, a 15-year-old student who had not grown in eight years, shot up 4.5 cm (1.8 in) in just 14 weeks and is now 130 cm (4 ft 3 in) tall, the newspaper said. Doctors at Harbin Medical University Hospital transplanted cultured pituitary gland cells from an embryo into his brain in March in the first such operation in the world, the newspaper said.

U.S. army band instruments stolen

HOUSTON (AP) — About \$500,000 worth of musical instruments belonging to the U.S. Army band that performs at the White House were stolen Sunday from a rental truck, officials said. The truck, which was en route to a concert in San Antonio, Texas, disappeared early in the morning from a hotel parking lot. Police found it empty Sunday afternoon, said army Staff Sgt. Donald Newsome, one of two men assigned to drive the instruments from the band's base at Fort Myers in Arlington, Va., to San Antonio. "It was the complete concert band setup, from timpani down to the smallest instruments — chimes, xylophones, sax, tubas," Sgt. Newsome said. Band members were travelling separately. Police spokesman Rick Hartley said investigators had no leads. The band was scheduled to perform Monday for the Texas Bandmasters Association. Sgt. Newsome didn't know if the band had other equipment, but some band members were attempting to borrow instruments. The band, also known as "Pershing's Own," is the only army band that performs at White House ceremonies.

All bets on for British wedding

LONDON (R) — A British couple has asked their wedding guests to make bets on their behalf at the bookmakers instead of sending presents. Television sports quiz host Will Buckley and his bride to be Graine O'Driscoll sent out a list to 150 friends with odds agreed with bookmakers William Hill, the Sun newspaper reported. They ranged from 20 to one gamble on Chelsea winning the Football Association Cup title next year, to odds of 33 to one on the couple having twins. If any of the bets come up, the London couple will collect the winnings, the newspaper said Monday.

Will, 29, was quoted as saying: "Even if we don't win anything, we will have a lot of fun. Generally the idea has been well received."

Khmer Rouge attacks in Northern province

PHNOM PENH (AFP) — Khmer Rouge guerrillas have been stepping up attacks in Cambodia's remote northern province of Preah Vihear, the seat of the their recently-declared provisional government, a government military official said Monday.

The guerrillas attacked villages in Chen Sey district between July 18-20, killing three people and seriously injuring 11 others, and torching more than 50 homes, the military official said.

Guerrillas also struck in the nearby district of Chep on July 20, burning down 60 homes and injuring several more villagers, the official said.

Several other more minor attacks and robberies were reported in the neighbouring district of Rovieng.

Khmer Rouge radio announced on July 11 the formation of a provisional government with its base in the remote, trouble-plagued province.

"The attacks increased after the Khmer Rouge formed their own government. They try to increase their territory, but now we have troops to kick them back to where they came from," the official said.

Western aid agency officials in the capital said there was an alarming increase in fighting in the area but added it could be due to the rainy season which traditionally sets to an upsurge in guerrilla activity.

Thailand urges Burma to free dissident leader

BANGKOK (Agencies) — Thai Prime Minister Chuan Leekpai Monday urged Burma to release detained Nobel Peace laureate Aung San Suu Kyi as the key to solving many of the isolated country's political and economic problems.

Mr. Chuan made the recommendation in talks with Burmese Foreign Minister Ohn Gyaw, who is in Bangkok as the guest of Thailand at a ministerial meeting of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN).

"Settle the question of Aung San Suu Kyi first, then Burma will have time to concentrate on developing the democratic process and the economy," Thai government spokesman Abhisit Vejajiva quoted Mr. Chuan as telling Ohn Gyaw.

"If the problem of Aung San Suu Kyi was resolved it would make other problems easy to settle," Mr. Chuan was quoted as saying during the 40-minute meeting.

The Thai leader said Bangkok had incurred sharp criticism for inviting a representative of Burma's ruling military junta to attend the talks, though Thailand has made clear other ASEAN members backed the invitation.

ASEAN also includes Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Singapore.

Developed nations led by the United States say Burma's ruling State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC) must continue to be isolated by the international community.

ASEAN countries have continued to deal with the Burmese leaders and invest in the country under a policy

of "constructive engagement."

SLORC has been criticised for human-rights violations, the detention of opposition politicians, notably Aung San Suu Kyi, and its refusal to accept the results of a 1990 general election decisively won by her National League for Democracy.

Mr. Chuan, referring to the rarity of Burma's presence at an international forum, said Rangoon should learn from this experience and implement change at home.

Mr. Ohn Gyaw, wearing a constant smile but disinclined to answer reporters' questions, spoke favourably of his talks with Mr. Chuan.

"The meeting was successful and we have gained good experience from the ASEAN meeting," the minister said.

Mr. Abhisit quoted Mr. Ohn Gyaw as saying the release of Aung San Suu Kyi was one part of Burma's process of democratic development, but the government could not fix a date because of fears this might unleash a "chaotic situation."

"The time will come to talk or meet her, but we are in a process of democratic development so we have to show caution in every move," Mr. Ohn Gyaw told Mr. Chuan when asked about the detained activist.

"If we make a mistake, all that we have done in the past five years will collapse and we do not want to see a chaotic situation as in 1988," he said.

Aung San Suu Kyi, 48, daughter of Burmese nationalist hero General Aung San, has been under house arrest in Rangoon for five years. In 1991, she won the Nobel Peace Prize.

India, Russia to discuss plane deal

NEW DELHI (AFP) — Indian Air Force (IAF) chief Swaroop Krishnan Kaul has left for a 10-day visit to Russia to explore the possibility of buying SU-30 fighter planes, an air force spokesman said Monday.

Chief of Air Staff Kaul, accompanied by Deputy Air Marshal S.R. Deshpande, left for Moscow Sunday in response to an invitation from the Russian Air Force.

The spokesman said the IAF will discuss upgrading Soviet-built MIG-21s with India, the purchase of more MIG-29s and examine the possibility of buying SU-30s. Moscow has not sold the aircraft to any other country.

"There is nothing immediate about SU-30s," the spokesman said. "It is seen as a long-term need of India. The matter is at a very, very preliminary stage."

But the United News of India news agency said the IAF chief will "finalise the terms of conditions and allied matters relating to the SU-30s," a multi-role combat aircraft offered by Russia to India.

The news agency said the SU-30s matched in performance the US-built F-18 Hornet and the European Tornado. The Russian manufacturer of the SU-30 claim the aircraft can outmanoeuvre the French Mirage 2000 and U.S. F-16.



Bar manager wins Hemingway look-alike contest

KEY WEST, Fla. (AP) — After five years of trying, a bar manager won the Ernest Hemingway Look-Alike Contest — thanks to a beard, a wool sweater and a little bit of a paunch. John Petersen beat out 82 other Hemingway wannabes to claim a one-week stay at a local resort during next year's festival, a \$100 tab at Sloppy Joe's Bar, a box of Hemingway cigars, five cases of beer and a front-end alignment for his car. He said he gained weight and let his

beard grow in order to win. He also wore a cream-coloured wool turtleneck sweater. "I'll be back every year now as a judge, but at least I don't have to wear the sweater any more," Mr. Petersen said. The Hemingway Days Celebration, which ended Sunday, was created 14 years ago to honour the Pulitzer Prize-winning author who lived on the island for years. Petersen (centre) of Tavernier, Fla., is cheered by previous winners of the contest in Key West (AFP photo)

World News

JORDAN TIMES, TUESDAY, JULY 26, 1994 5

Asian nations hold the 1st level security talks

BANGKOK (AP) — Grouped in an informal oval, foreign policy chiefs of 17 nations and the European Union held unprecedented talks Monday on preventing armed conflicts in Korea, the South China Sea and elsewhere in Asia.

The ministers chatted close up in a hotel family suite, an arrangement designed to start the process of building trust among nations, including China, Russia, the United States and Vietnam, that have sparred in the past.

Tensions on the Korean peninsula and competing territorial claims over islands in the South China Sea were raised, said Michael Costello, secretary of Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

"They were much more adventurous and willing to talk — about anything than I expected," he told reporters.

"The atmosphere was quite good, considering that five years ago you would have been laughed off the premises for suggesting that 18 foreign ministers would have gotten together in one room at all, much less discuss quite sensitive issues," said a delegate from New Zealand who demanded anonymity.

He said many specific proposals were presented and they would be studied before the next security forum next year.

The Association of South East Asian Nations organized the three-hour forum as part of the annual meeting of foreign ministers of ASEAN and its allies and neighbors.

These were the first multilateral, ministerial-level security talks in Asia, and participants avoided overly-specific discussion of conflicts so as to avoid contention.

The end of the cold war has ended the Soviet threat and Vietnam's military occupation of Cambodia, but Asia now faces North Korea's nuclear threat and renewed worries of fighting in the South China Sea, where six Asian nations have competing claims.

Also worrisome are continuing civil war in Cambodia, the military regime in Burma, and an arms build-up in Asia while defence spending decreases worldwide.

Four key nations were not at Monday's talks: Cambodia, North Korea, Burma and Taiwan, a claimant to the South China Sea that couldn't appear because of opposition from Beijing.

Participants were ASEAN members Thailand, Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, Brunei and the Philippines; ASEAN dialogue partners Australia, Canada, the European Union, Japan, New Zealand, South Korea and the United States; and China, Russia, Laos, Papua New Guinea and Vietnam.

Several countries proposed starting with greater "transparency" to build trust, including publication by each country of papers of its defence policy and military status. Another proposal called for a regional arms register.

Still others ranged from the most basic — declaring non-use of force — to the most ambitious — formation of a regional peacekeeping force to complement United Nations forces.

"However, no attempts should be made to use confidence-building measures and preventive diplomacy to resolve internal conflict or problems of a country," said a statement presented at Monday's talks by Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen.

Philippine Foreign Secretary Roberto Romulo proposed volleyball among military units in the South China Sea to foster friendship.

"We have identified this game after serious study and consultation," his statement said. "It symbolises the teamwork and cooperation that would be required to prevent potential conflict."

He said nations should join in an ASEAN declaration pledging only peaceful means of resolution.

Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas proposed that the informal South China Sea workshops that Indonesia has organized since 1990 be upgraded to the government level.



A young Rwandan carry her brother heads for the distribution area for food aid parachuted by American forces into the mountainous border zone (AFP photo)

Bosnian Serbs threaten new pressure on U.N.

SARAJEVO (R) — Bosnia's Serbs threatened to "make life difficult" for the United Nations in Bosnia as mediators met Monday to consider whether to punish them for effectively rejecting the latest peace plan.

Senior officials of the five-nation "contact group" conferred in Moscow in an effort to rescue the plan which has been accepted by the Muslim-Croat alliance but not so far by the Bosnian Serbs.

The meeting was also expected to decide whether contact group foreign ministers would meet as previously scheduled in Geneva on July 30 to weigh possible measures to punish the Serbs for not accepting the plan.

In Sarajevo, the U.N. said the Bosnian Serb military commander, General Ratko Mladic, had threatened to restrict the U.N.'s freedom of movement if his demands for the release of Serb prisoners held by the Muslim-led Bosnian government were not met.

U.N. sources have blame the Serbs for shooting at U.N. aircraft at Sarajevo Airport last week and interpreted the action as being designed to increase pressure on the peacekeepers at a time when the contact group is considering taking military measures against the Serbs over the peace plan.

At a meeting last week, with General Sir Michael Rose, the U.N. commander in Bosnia, Gen. Mladic refused to allow the U.N. to fly 35 patients out of the Muslim enclave of Gorazde until 500 Serb detainees are freed, a U.N. spokeswoman said Monday.

The Bosnian government has refused to release them until they get a full accounting for their own missing personnel.

The U.N. denounced as unacceptable any linkage between the prisoner issue and medical evacuations. It said Gen. Mladic had told Gen. Rose the Serbs were ready to take action to block the U.N.'s freedom of movement in Bosnian Serb territory after July 30.

"They didn't specifically say stopping freedom of movement completely after the 30th, but they did say they would make our lives more difficult," U.N. spokeswoman Claire Grimes said. She also said the Serbs had violated a U.N.-imposed heavy weapons exclusion zone around Gorazde by opening fire on residents within the enclave with a 40mm anti-aircraft gun.

Ms. Grimes said a woman was killed and a man wounded in Gorazde Sunday when Serbs opened fire on a group of people gathering in the harvest. The incident was a violation of an agreement allowing harvesting to take place peacefully.

In Moscow, the ITAR-TASS news agency said Defence Minister Pavel Grachev would fly to former Yugoslavia Tuesday to meet local political leaders and army commanders.

Russian First Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov chaired a meeting of the contact group, which comprises Britain, the U.S., Russia, France and Germany, in Moscow. He said the group was doing all it could to win full support for the peace plan.

"We believe we have a plan that is balanced and realistic and reflects the interests of all sides... to abandon it would hardly be expedient," he told TASS.

The plan awards 51 per cent of Bosnia to the Muslim-Croat federation, while the Serbs, who control 70 per cent of the former Yugoslav republic, would have to roll back to 49 per cent.

French Defence Minister Francois Leotard said there were signs that all the factions were preparing for an eventual rejection of the peace plan and an outbreak of new hostilities.

"For the moment, it is only a rejection on the part of Bosnian Serbs. But the definitive rejection of this peace plan would incontestably set off a resumption of hostilities across all the territory of ex-Yugoslavia," he told Radio Luxembourg.

In Sarajevo, the United Nations announced it was reopening the airport after a series of closures since last Wednesday as a result of gunfire directed at U.N. aircraft.

A U.N. military aircraft touched down and took off again Monday morning without incident.

The U.N. also disclosed that two French soldiers, missing from their posts in Sarajevo since Thursday night, appeared to have gone over to the Bosnian Serbs.

"It was a deliberate attempt (to leave) on their part," said Ms. Grimes. "They put pillows in their beds."

4 dead in army shootout, strike hits Kashmir

SRINAGAR, India (AFP) — Three Indian army soldiers and a Muslim militant were killed in a shootout Monday in the north Kashmir town of Kupwara, as a strike by thousands of government workers disrupted life in the valley.

Police in Srinagar, the Kashmir summer capital, said soldiers and Muslim militant gunmen traded fire for more than three hours in the Chokali area of Kupwara. Three soldiers and a militant were killed, they said.

The gun battle coincided with anti-Indian protests in a Srinagar suburb by residents who took to the streets following the alleged killing of two brothers by Indian security forces Sunday.

Chanting anti-Indian slogans, the residents demanded a probe into the incident. They said the brothers were among eight suspects arrested by security forces. Six were allowed to go but the two were killed in custody, they said.

Kashmiri residents have frequently accused Indian army and paramilitary soldiers of shooting suspects in cold blood. Most such accusations are dismissed by the authorities as false.

In the northern Kashmir district of Baramulla, meanwhile, two women were kidnapped and killed by Muslim militants who suspected them to be police informants, the police said.

Elsewhere in the valley the security forces killed 11 militants Sunday night, including seven trying to sneak in from across the border with Pakistan-controlled Kashmir, the Press Trust of India said.

Kashmir is held in part by India and Pakistan, which have fought two wars over the ownership of the Himalayan state since independence in 1947.

New Delhi accuses Pakistan of backing Muslim militants in the Indian-controlled southern two-thirds of Kashmir. Islamabad denies charges of arming and training the rebels but admits providing them with moral and diplomatic support.

The Muslim-majority valley was gripped Monday by a strike by more than 30,000 employees of the Kashmir state government which disrupted water and power supplies.

Groups of those who advanced to the runoffs, only 8 formally belonged to the Communist or the Socialist Party.

"Apathy of the people has resulted in our defeat," said Vladimir Melnik of the Communist Party's ruling Central Committee. "Our mistake was a sloppy election campaign."

But the allies of Ukraine's new president, Leonid Kuchma, also could not claim victory.

Mr. Kuchma, a proponent of economic reforms, needs more support in parliament to carry them through. At present, his Inter-regional Bloc of Reforms (IBR) controls only 30 seats. The pro-Communist majority in parliament opposes privatisation and wants to curb presidential powers.

"It's hard to say that the number of our supporters in parliament has substantially increased," said Vladimir Karpov, IBR's parliamentary leader.

"The majority among those elected are not affiliated with any party, though some might join our faction."

A Provisional Ruling Council of young army officers has taken power in Banjul, pledging to end corruption and establish a mainly civilian government soon.

In Mali, which borders Senegal, the civilian government elected in 1992 after the overthrow of military strongman Moussa Traore expressed its concern and urged the coup leaders to find a democratic solution to their grievances.

"Recent history shows that a coup d'etat has never brought a satisfactory response to problems of economic development and the search for a democratic administration offering hope no greater social justice," a government statement said.

French clash with Rwandan militia; Zaire camp deaths rise

GOMA, Zaire (R) — French Foreign Legionnaires have clashed with Hutu militia killers in southwest Rwanda while the death toll in Rwandan refugee camps in Zaire climbed to 11,000.

French forces struggling to contain looting and a mass movement of refugees into Zaire said they skirmished with Hutu militia for three nights near Bugarama.

Foreign Legion Lieutenant-Colonel Jacques Hogard said his men, probably the toughest in the French army, inflicted casualties. The Legionnaires suffered none, he added.

"We are hunting them," Col. Hogard said Sunday in Cyangugu in the French-declared "safe zone."

The "interahamwe" (those who fight together) are a French-trained Hutu militia who played a leading role in massacring members of the Tutsi-minority after the Hutu government launched its genocidal purge of Rwanda's former feudal rulers in April.

Now with the army defeated by the Tutsi-dominated Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF), the militia are co-opting the Hutu population into joining them in exile, pillaging what is left of Rwanda and carrying out hit-and-run attacks on Tutsis.

With a cholera epidemic killing more Rwandans in refugee camps in eastern Zaire, the United Nations said Monday that existing mass graves had all been filled.

"The death toll continues to rise. Our rough estimate is that 11,000 have died," U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) spokesman Ray Wilkinson told reporters in the Zairean border town of Goma.

"All the existing mass graves have been filled and we're looking for new sites for this grisly task."

But Mr. Wilkinson also struck a more optimistic note in saying that more food was being delivered to the remote

Zaire camps and that thousands of refugees had begun to go home to Rwanda.

"We maybe turning the corner, reaching rock bottom, climbing out of the abyss in which we have fallen," he said.

On Sunday U.S. military planes dropped food aid to Rwandan refugees in what aid workers said was a senseless operation, but many sick and hungry Hutus gave up waiting for help anyway and began the long trek home.

Three C-130 planes targeted an airstrip near Katala refugee camp but witnesses said that instead of flying along the strip they flew across and dropped their load over the countryside, as far as one mile (1.5 km) off the mark.

Mr. Wilkinson said that UNHCR was planning to position its officials in the towns of northwestern Rwanda along the route that refugees, being encouraged to return, could take home.

The U.N. wants to get trucks to help ferry those too weak to make the journey on foot back home and Mr. Wilkinson said the refugees would be able to feed off abundant crops standing in the fields unharvested.

But he added: "Our soundings in the camps also tell us many people are terrified they will be killed if they go home."

Rwanda's President Pasteur Bizimungu left for Mauritius Monday for talks with Zairean President Mobutu Sese Seko to speed up the return of refugees from Zaire.

Mr. Bizimungu, installed last Tuesday at the head of an RPF government, appealed to the United States to use the largely-deserted capital Kigali as its main coordination point for aid to Rwanda.

"We will discuss the refugee situation in Zaire. The Zairean authorities have put some obstacles preventing refugees from returning," Mr.

Bizimungu told reporters at Kigali Airport before leaving for Mauritius.

In the last week, thousands of corpses have been dumped into deep trenches dug by French forces from Operation Turquoise on the edge of Goma town's cemetery.

Medicins Sans Frontiers (Doctors Without Borders) spokeswoman Isabel Pardieu told reporters daily deaths had risen from 10 per 10,000 last week to 30 per 10,000 over the weekend — a total of about 3,000 a day.

"It's getting worse. We see the bodies on the roads but not far into the camps," Ms. Pardieu said.

French soldiers are only collecting corpses that turn up in Goma town, and many are piling up around the camps to the north and west

of Goma uncollected," aid workers said.

Mr. Bizimungu said Monday he would investigate whether a leading Hutu politician has been held by the Rwandan Patriotic Front.

Mr. Bizimungu told reporters he did not know the whereabouts of Hutu politician Sylvestre Kamali, missing for nearly two weeks.

Mr. Kamali's wife Sunday said her husband was abducted by RPF fighters at a roadblock in the capital Kigali on July 14.

Philemon Kamali said she believes he was taken because of his refusal to join RPF forces during the three-month civil war sparked by the assassination of President Juvénal Habyarimana April 6.

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Prosecutor seeks 11 years jail for Craxi

MILAN (Agencies) — A Milan public prosecutor asked a court Monday to sentence former Prime Minister Bettino Craxi to 11 years in jail for fraudulent bankruptcy in the collapse of Italian bank Banco Ambrosiano over a decade ago, court sources said.

It was the first of a number of trials for corruption and the illegal financing of political parties involving the burly former Socialist Party chief to reach the summing up stage when the prosecutors ask for sentencing.

Mr. Craxi was not in court to hear the public prosecutor wind up the case for the prosecution. The former politician has been at his holiday home in Tunisia for months with his lawyers arguing he is too ill to travel with complications stemming from the diabetes, from which he has long suffered.

The prosecutor asked for 10 years jail for former Justice Minister Claudio Martelli, once Mr. Craxi's number two in the Socialist Party, and seven years each for a former vice-president of state energy group ENI and Licio Gelli, once the grandmaster of the banned P2 Masonic Lodge.

Mr. Craxi and Mr. Martelli are accused of having accepted several million dollars from Banco Ambrosiano before it collapsed in 1982 in Italy's biggest post-war bank failure. Banco Ambrosiano Chairman Roberto Calvi, a member of the P2, was later found hanging from London's Blackfriars Bridge.

The former Socialist Party leader, once one of Italy's most powerful politicians, faces two other trials in Milan and about 20 investigations in connection with suspected corruption.

Meanwhile, the director of central financing at Premier Silvio Berlusconi's Fininvest media empire reported Monday to judges investigating the "clean hands" corruption probe.

Salvatore Sciascia was immediately brought before Judge Antonio Di Pietro, the star of the anti-corruption campaign, to face charges of tax evasion in a probe into alleged collusion between leading companies and finance police, Milan judicial officials said.

A warrant had been issued for his arrest Saturday, along with 22 others, just two days after magistrates won back powers to detain corruption suspects following a climb-down by Mr. Berlusconi over a controversial decree.

Police issued a similar warrant against Mr. Sciascia's deputy Gianmarco Rizzi, a former finance police officer amid reports that Mr. Berlusconi's businessman brother Paolo, already facing corruption charges, was also being probed for tax evasion.

The new wave of arrests puts Mr. Berlusconi in a difficult position, increasing criticism that he is mixing up the interests of state with his private commercial interests which he has not yet given up.

A meeting Sunday evening appeared to illustrate the point as Gianni Letta, under-secretary at the prime minister's office and former vice president of Fininvest, and Cesare Previti, minister of defence and former Fininvest lawyer came to his villa in Arcore, near Milan, to discuss the whole affair.

Mr. Berlusconi's fractious government coalition, weakened by the row forcing him to withdraw a decree depriving judges of the right to detain corruption suspects, is already showing fresh cracks in response to the latest initiative.

Luigi Berlinguer, president of the left-wing group in parliament, asked Mr. Berlusconi to explain the Sunday meeting at Arcore which included two government officials.

"How does the prime minister intend to distinguish between his private business and his official responsibilities," asked Mr. Berlinguer.

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Ousted Gambian leader to stay in Senegal for now

DAKAR (R) — Gambia's ousted President Sir Dawda Jawara, granted political asylum by Senegal after a coup by young army officers, will stay in Dakar while he decides his next move, Senegalese officials said Monday.

Sir Dawda arrived Sunday on a U.S. warship with about 40 relatives and government officials, including Vice President Saidou Sabally and Finance Minister Bakary Darbo.

Jawara will stay at the Medina residence for the time being, an official said, referring to the sumptuous government guest house in Dakar.

In Banjul, diplomats said people were going to work normally Monday but the airport and land borders were still closed.

The 70-year-old leader took shelter on the U.S. Navy tank-landing ship La Moure County in Banjul Harbour after troops rampaged through the capital Friday.

A Provisional Ruling Council of young army officers has taken power in Banjul, pledging to end corruption and establish a mainly civilian government soon.

In Mali, which borders Senegal, the civilian government elected in 1992 after the overthrow of military strongman Moussa Traore expressed its concern and urged the coup leaders to find a democratic solution to their grievances.

"Recent history shows that a coup d'etat has never brought a satisfactory response to problems of economic development and the search for a democratic administration offering hope no greater social justice," a government statement said.

There was no official reaction from Nigeria, which under the terms of a 1992 defence pact provides the colonel commanding the 800-strong Gambian army and 70 military advisers.

The young Gambian army officers who took power in a bloodless coup have tightened their hold on power.

Lieutenant Yahya Jammeh received ambassadors and religious leaders at State House Sunday afternoon and promised a new government would be named as soon as possible.

"As soon as a new government is instituted which will be composed of mostly civilians, democracy will be in place and we will welcome all contributions from all corners of this country to make sure that everything is done in the right way."

"Transparency and accountability will be the order of the day," he told British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) Radio.

Senegal's President Jerry Rawlings, a flight lieutenant who took power in a coup in 1981, resigned from the air force to contest elections in 1992.

Sierra Leone's 27-year-old leader, Captain Valentine Strasser, seized power in a coup in April 1992 and has promised multi-party elections next year. Diplomats say he models himself on Mr. Rawlings but his April 29 revolution has begun to run out of steam as the rebel war he pledged to end drags on.

The new four-member Provisional Ruling Council appealed to people to support work Monday and asked for permanent secretariat to assume the duties of government ministers who have fled

or been detained.

An overnight curfew remained in force from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m.

Interior Minister Lamine Kiti Jabang took refuge in Senegal's southern province of Casamance, near the Gambian border.

Officials said 10 Nigerian officers working with the military had been put under house arrest. They included the former commander of the Gambian army, Colonel Boubakar Dada, who was preparing to leave Gambia. His replacement Colonel Lawan Gwadebe, who took office last month, is currently in Nigeria.

Gambia is a country of one million people surrounded on three sides by Senegal. Its beaches are a popular destination for British tourists, about 1,000 of whom are believed to be on holiday there.

Britain's Foreign Office advised the British tourists in Gambia to stay in their hotel complexes.

Unfancied fillies romp home at 2,712 to one

TOKYO (R) — Gamblers betting on a genuine upset short cleaned up at a Japanese racetrack when two unfancied fillies romped home at odds of 2,712 to one. The Japanese Racing Association (JRA) said the two horses, one a 3-year-old and the other a 2-year-old, won the 1,000-yen (US\$10) race. The two horses, one a 3-year-old and the other a 2-year-old, won the 1,000-yen (US\$10) race. The two horses, one a 3-year-old and the other a 2-year-old, won the 1,000-yen (US\$10) race.

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All bets on for British wedding

LONDON (R) — A British couple has asked their guests to place bets on the outcome of the wedding. The couple, who are both professional gamblers, have asked their guests to place bets on the outcome of the wedding. The couple, who are both professional gamblers, have asked their guests to place bets on the outcome of the wedding.

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Peace is a state of mind

ARMED WITH the Constitution of the land and the support of an overwhelming majority of the Jordanian people, His Majesty King Hussein yesterday signed in Washington a historical document ending the 46-year-old state of war between Jordan and Israel. In the document itself and in remarks the King made during the signing ceremony at the White House, Jordan pledged commitment to the cause of making peace among all the peoples of the region. The document, hailed by President Bill Clinton as "a bold step to write a new history," emphasises the two countries' commitment to the achievement of a just, lasting and comprehensive peace between Israel and its Arab neighbours in accordance with U.N. Security Council resolutions 242 and 338. It outlines achievements so far accomplished between the two countries' negotiators, especially regarding territorial and water rights. It also contains further agreements on areas that will lead to the eventual normalisation of relations between the two countries and peoples. In short, the document, as described by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, is the closest the two sides could get to a peace treaty.

The objective of signing a peace treaty between the two countries was made secondary to the objective of the quest for "a just, lasting and comprehensive peace between Israel and its neighbours..."

We hope, therefore, that Israel and the other Arab parties would move ahead and soon conclude agreements similar to the one signed by the King and the Israeli prime minister in Washington yesterday that would lead to peace treaties among all the parties.

Jordanians might not rejoice at the moment. But they have the confidence in their leadership to deliver them in times of peace as it did in times of war. Many of them pride themselves today at the thought that their sons in the Jordanian Armed Forces bring peace to the peoples of Bosnia, Cambodia, Angola and other hotspots in the world, long before Israelis could spare their sons for alleviating the sufferings of Rwandans, as Mr. Rabin noted yesterday.

We certainly would like to see more and more Israeli soldiers bringing peace to the people all over the world, not the least Palestinians. For the whole conflict in the Middle East has started with the displacement of the Palestinians and the denial of their national rights.

As Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali remarked last week at his meeting with Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and Secretary of State Warren Christopher "peace is a state of mind." What Jordan hopes it did yesterday is to have put all the parties concerned in a peaceful state of mind. Jordan has opened the door into a new dawn for itself, Israel and the rest of the Arab World.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

THE WASHINGTON summit meeting between His Majesty King Hussein and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin is a natural development in the long peace process which started in Madrid, said a columnist in Al Rai Arabic daily Monday. The Jordanians and the Israelis have been holding direct contacts since the start of the Madrid conference at the bilateral and the multilateral levels, and the Washington parley comes as a climax to these meetings intended to regain the lost and the usurped Arab rights, said Mahmoud Rimawi. The United States has been persistent in demanding this summit to take place, and therefore the U.S. administration is expected to offer Jordan and the Arab parties a fair treatment and a just and balanced settlement for the Arab-Israeli conflict that would guarantee the rights of all parties, particularly the Palestinian people, said the writer. We expect economic aid from Washington and a neutral stand on the part of the American administration in handling issues pertaining to the Arab-Israeli conflict, added the writer. Furthermore, said the writer, the Washington meeting should prompt Israel to declare its full readiness to comply with all U.N. resolutions.

A columnist in Al Dustour demanded the creation of a special cultural committee in Jordan to handle issues related to normalisation of cultural relations with Israel. Taher Al Adwan said that while the hue and cry was raised when columnist Sultan Al Hattab appeared on Israeli television discussing Palestinian rights, there was no reaction whatsoever to the appearance of other Jordanian journalists on Israeli television or the presence of Israeli journalists in Jordan reporting about its social and cultural life. Issues pertaining to normalisation with Israel should not be left to the whims and mood of certain people or remain hanging in the balance and shrouded with mystery, said the writer. There is no point in depriving our intellectuals of the chance to attend an international conference where Israel is represented, and there is no justification for preventing them from presenting Arab views, he added. The Israelis, said the writer, have defeated the Arabs in the battlefield but this should not prevent the Arabs from beating the Israelis in cultural domains.

The View from Fourth Circle

Turkey's many doors, challenges and neighbours

By Rami G. Khouri

ANKARA, Turkey — I have been here in Ankara for a few days attending a media conference, and have been struck by the similarities in the issues confronting Turks and Arabs. In the few years since the end of the cold war, it has become obvious that one of the great consequences of this historic moment of transformation in the Middle East and in Europe is the question that comprises issues such as national identity, inter-communal relations within single states, and the very national configuration of existing states.

States that have been stable and that have progressed for many decades throughout this century are suddenly having to deal with new but native forces of identity, ethnicity, religion and political culture. These forces are posing important questions about, a) the longevity of the 17th century Anglo-French concept of nation-states as the most appropriate means of organising communities of like-minded people, and b) more specifically, the durability of existing political systems and state configurations in the wider Middle East, in which I include Turkey.

It is interesting that three of the most important "nations" or civilisations in the Middle East since the dawn of human history — Turkey, Egypt, and Iran — are simultaneously experiencing strong political or economic pressures that might slowly modify the state political systems and national structures that have defined them for most of this century or even earlier. Along with Syria and Iraq, which will soon have to deal with similar issues of political identity, Turkey, Iran and Egypt have effectively set the tone of national development and determined the regional condition of virtually the entire Middle East for many centuries.

I do not mean to suggest that these countries may disappear, or be radically transformed into new shapes, sizes or demographic make-ups. They will almost certainly remain within their existing state borders for many years to come. But also they will almost certainly experience substantial changes in the forms and sentiments that now define their political systems — changes that will continue to set the patterns for the socio-economic conditions and national political cultures of the region as a whole.

Being the regional trend-setters that they are due to the sheer bulk and force of their demography, culture and economy, it is no coincidence that during the past century and a half Turkey, Iran and Egypt have tried in turn to respond to the challenge of European colonial civilisation by becoming European themselves. The ruling elites and economic experiences of Turkey and Egypt in the 19th century were both deeply influenced by the desire to become European in character, while the Shah of Iran more recently tried to turn his country into an integral part of the strategic alliance and the industrial economy of the North Atlantic community of states. A central state goal of Turkey today remains membership in the European Union (EU), which

seems slow in coming.

Turkey is perhaps the most interesting and important of these three dominant regional civilisations because of its — literally and figuratively — pivotal strategic position at the junction of Europe, Central Asia and the Middle East. It may also represent a harbinger of things to come in other eastern Mediterranean, Middle Eastern, and Islamic/Asian cultures, because it is the one state that has moved fastest and furthest on the path towards European-style secular, democratic statehood. This started in the 19th century under the Ottomans, and continued after the revolutionary changes instituted by Ataturk in the early decades of this century.

Observations on the street here and honest discussions with journalists, intellectuals and diplomats all quickly lead to one conclusion: Turkey is dealing with the same sorts of national identity issues that Egypt, Iran and others in the Middle have been addressing since the late 1970s, when the lingering socio-economic and political patterns of post-1920 contemporary Middle Eastern statehood finally slipped, stumbled and wobbled on the material disparities and the cultural and political disequilibrium of the post-1974 oil boom.

Turkey today confronts four important issues that are mirrored in other parts of this region: a) the inclusionary status and political culture of ethnic groups such as Kurds, b) the important role of Islamist political movements, c) the nature and direction of a democratic, pluralistic political system, and d) the fate of all three of these issues in the face of deep and often painful economic restructuring at a time of rising population and stressed economic and natural resource bases.

The important lessons we can learn from Turkey's experience today stem from the fact that it is the most advanced and stable secular democracy in the Arab/Islamic Middle East. Secular democracy is well entrenched in Turkey, despite the fact — or perhaps due to the fact — that the army has had to step in several times in recent decades to assure its continuity. The important new factor facing democratic secularism in Turkey is the double challenge of tribalism (mainly the Kurdish question) and Islamist politics.

Both the Kurdish and Islamist activists accept to play by the rules of modern Turkish democracy, but they both also explicitly demand that the secular nature of the state take into account the cultural and religious dimensions of people's identities. Turkish Kurds and Islamists remain rather vague about the specific changes they want implemented to satisfy their desires, and the military nature of Kurdish cultural and political self-assertion is problematic, unfortunate, probably inappropriate, and almost certainly ineffective in the long run.

If history is any guide to go by — and Turkey has plenty of that — there can be no lasting military answer to the

questions raised by its own ethnic Kurds and political dialogue. It is a reflection of the strength of Turkish national identity and of the depth of its composure that the political mainstream is clearly willing and able to deal with the issues that have been raised by those Turks who wish to see that adjustments made in Turkey's modern secular democracy.

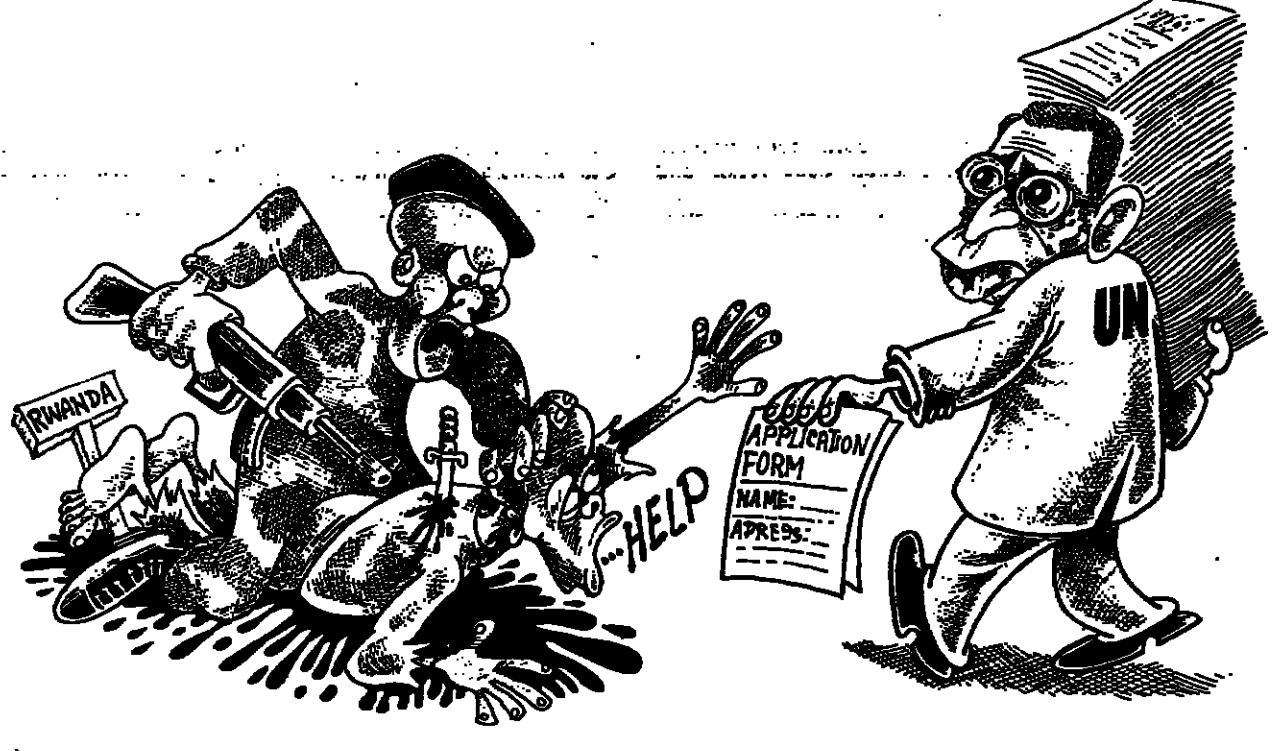
The result of Turkey's self-assessment is important for the rest of us in the Middle East, because the answers and the rest of us in the Middle East may witness in the years to come political changes Turkey may witness in the years to come could determine a crucial issue: whether Turkey maintains its desire to strengthen political and economic ties with Western Europe, or, instead, reorients its political culture and its economy towards its historically important Asian/Middle Eastern/Islamic hinterland.

This raises the larger question of national identity that one also hears discussed in Turkey today: Is Turkey a European state, a Middle Eastern/Asian/Islamic culture, or a credible combination of both? The question is intriguing, but it may not be legitimate. It is possible, as most Turks insist, that Turkey cannot be easily categorised as European or Middle Eastern; it is possible that simply by raising the question foreign observers such as myself are too preoccupied by our own questions of Arab identity to appreciate the authenticity of Turkey's multi-cultural, ideologically pluralistic, political, secular and geographically multi-polar national character. It is heartening to see Turks struggling with these issues within a methodical, pluralistic context, despite the momentary militarism of the Kurdish phenomenon today; we have much to learn from this rare yet sustained experience of an Islamic social and human culture that is grappling with indigenous challenges of ethnicity and Islamist politics within a national political consensus that remains emphatically secular, democratic, pluralistic, and tolerant.

Many in our region are already addressing similar issues of national identity and configuration, seeking the most satisfactory confluence of secular democracy, religious nationalism and the soothing comforts of culture and tribe. We in the Arab World are moving in several different directions in our attempts to come up with suitable answers to these existential questions. Once again, we can look to Turkey on many different levels: as a neighbour and co-culture perhaps destined to forge its future in close economic and political proximity to the Arab/Islamic Middle East; and perhaps also as a signpost of where we may be heading in the near future.

Turkey is knocking at Europe's front door, but that door remains stubbornly shut. Turkey's other door, meanwhile, opens onto the Arab/Islamic Middle East and the Central Asian republics; it is a door that Turks as well as the rest of us around here should work harder at opening, and walking through, because we seem to be facing the same national challenges and we would probably be collectively strengthened if we worked at facing those challenges together.

M. KAHIL



In public debut, younger Kim a far cry from his forceful father

By Laura King
The Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea — He looked distant, distracted, even bored. He didn't exactly wow the crowd. And someone else delivered his speech for him.

Wednesday's public debut of North Korea's presumed new leader, Kim Jong Il, graphically illustrated what observers have been saying about him for years: He's no Kim Il Sung.

The elder Kim was a towering figure in North Korea. Forceful and charismatic, he was revered as a near-god.

The younger Kim is another story. At a mass rally in Pyongyang — Kim's first appearance in a public forum since his father's death 12 days ago — he stood silently on the podium, a bit apart from the other officials, wearing a dark Mao suit and black armband.

In footage provided by the North and shown on Japanese and South Korean TV, only one thing about Kim truly evoked his father: He adopted the elder Kim's trademark stance, with hands clasped behind his back.

The foreign minister delivered a speech in Kim's name, promising good times were at hand in the hard-up North.

"We will construct a paradise on this earth, and we will make sure it is realised"

said the minister, Kim Yong Nam, who is also deputy premier.

It wasn't clear why Kim did not speak. Some analysts believed it was because he has not yet formally received the title of party chief or president. But he's never been a speechmaker — those who have met him say he speaks very rapidly, in an almost disjointed manner.

Although the square was filled with up to a million North Koreans, packed shoulder-to-shoulder, Kim made no move or gesture acknowledging them.

The lack of excitement was mutual. Foreign diplomats present for the event said the younger Kim's appearance on the podium caused no stir in the crowd. But since the speeches were filled with solemn tributes to the elder Kim, the crowd's silent, stony-faced reaction was not unexpected.

It could also be that everyone involved was simply worn out. On Tuesday, during the late leader's funeral procession, official television showed scenes of North Koreans waiting frantically, shaking with emotion.

Kim wasn't alone if he became a bit restless during the rally. A series of speeches, mainly delivered in a chanting monotone, went on for more than an hour. In the sweltering heat, people fidgeted, soldiers swayed on their feet.

A report by the ITAR-TASS news agency from the North Korean capital said the rally ended ahead of schedule because some people were fainting.

Kim Jong Il, 52, looked tired, and appeared to have lost some weight. On seeing the North's television coverage, one analyst even wondered whether he had been ill.

"I think his apparent poor health may explain why state TV showed very little of him," said Katsumi Sato, a leading North Korea-watcher in Japan.

Since his father's death, Kim had been seen only briefly in private sessions including the funeral ceremony, which was attended only by top officials, and with foreign diplomats, accepting condolence calls.

Observers found some encouraging signs in the way the rally was conducted.

In the speeches, there was none of the anti-U.S. rhetoric that often marks public occasions in the North. That suggests the new Pyongyang government is trying to set the stage for productive talks with the United States on the long-running nuclear dispute.

In a sign of Kim's solidifying power base, the armed forces also made a high-profile show of loyalty.

"To strengthen the armed forces is to support the new leader with our

guns," said Kim Gwang Jin, the army's No. 2 man. "The whole armed forces will support him."

Indications are, though, that it may be a long time before Kim has the kind of absolute authority his father had.

His stepmother, who observers believe Kim tried to elope with, has resurfaced, apparently with a higher spot in the political hierarchy than she previously held.

And the foreign minister's speech mentioned repeatedly the importance of the central committee of the Communist Workers' Party. Some South Korean officials thought that might be a subtle signal that any important decision will be made through the committee, not by Kim's personal fiat.

Even though South Korean and U.S. observers are confident that Kim's place as successor is secure, the lack of public enthusiasm made for a strange contrast with the flowery official tributes to him.

Loudspeakers blared songs dedicated to the younger Kim, including one titled: "Without you, there would be no fatherland."

The wording of one speech praising him managed, oddly, to suggest that the people of North Korea may simply become resigned to their new leader.

Said the foreign minister: "Kim Jong Il is our fate."

Ignoring reality will not do for Arafat's rule

By Hisham Sharabi

The implementation of the Palestinian-Israeli peace agreement begins in earnest with Yasser Arafat, head of the Palestinian self-government body, taking up permanent residence in Gaza.

His return was delayed for two related reasons: a lack of funds and the mounting opposition to his leadership. The international suppliers of the promised funds have repeatedly called for guarantees of accountability before making any payments. The first measure Mr. Arafat will now have to take will be to set up the kind of administrative machinery the World Bank has been suggesting for months.

Restricted aid, however, is not what Mr. Arafat had in mind. To deal with his other, more serious problem — the growing opposition not just from Islamic militants and other rejectionist groups but from broad segments of the population — he needs to find ways other than of distributing money at election time.

A master of the right manoeuvre at the right time, he had somehow been able in the past to change despair to hope. He did that mostly by manipulating symbols and ignoring reality and substance.

In Gaza two weeks ago, judging by many Palestinians' reactions, he could not quite pull the same trick. After Mr. Arafat's speech in Gaza city, a Washington Post reporter asked Iyad Sarraj, head of the only psychiatric clinic in Gaza, what he thought of Mr. Arafat. He replied: "He is our symbol of defeat."

During a visit recently to the West Bank and Gaza, it was clear to me that a serious Palestinian opposition to Mr. Arafat's leadership is already forming on the grassroots level. At a series of meetings held in May in Jerusalem, Bir Zeit and Gaza, and attended by representatives of the different political factions, including Fateh and Hamas, the central issues were democracy, reform and the coming elections of the Palestine Self-Governing Council.

A conference bringing together Palestinians in the diaspora next month will raise the same issues and make the same demands, and will call upon the international community, espe-

cially the donor states, for direct support.

Back among his people, Mr. Arafat will now have to respond concretely and expeditiously — not in symbols and metaphors — to moderate and rational demands such as are set forth on behalf of many Palestinians by Haidar Abdul Shafi, the much-respected former head of the Palestinian delegation to the peace talks.

Uppermost among these demands is a commitment by Mr. Arafat to a definite date for the elections (originally scheduled to take place this week) and to setting up an internationally agreed committee to prepare for and carry out the voting.

If the elections do take place on time, if they are carried out democratically and freely, they will not only give the Palestinians a voice in deciding their own affairs but will also show the world that the Palestinian people deserve the right to self-determination and to build their own independent state.

Mr. Arafat, if he is wisely advised, will have nothing to fear from such elections; on the contrary, he should welcome them. He will have little to risk and much to gain from a free and democratic vote. According to recent polls, Fateh stands to win some 35 per cent of the vote in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and Hamas no more than 18 per cent. Equally to his advantage will be a change in his style of his leadership and the democratisation of public institutions.

Only a free and democratic Palestinian entity alongside Israel will guarantee a genuine and lasting peace. An autocratic regime, such as exists today in many Arab countries, would not last but would inevitably lead to economic and political disintegration with unpredictable consequences.

A rejuvenated Palestinian society, which will necessarily be democratic and secular, will provide the model to many Arab countries now threatened by internal strife of how to overcome the confrontation between militant Islam and liberal secularism and how to build national unity on freedom of thought and expression and on political and religious tolerance rather than on patriarchal repression and autocracy.

The Washington Post

By Rami G. Khouri

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News

NEWS IN BRIEF

Court bans Yihad MKs from government

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel's supreme court ruled Monday that members of Knesset (MKs) belonging to a small right-wing party could not become cabinet ministers, stymieing Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's efforts to expand his minority government. The three-person Yihad Party broke away from the larger Tsomet Party earlier this year, citing allegations of corruption against Tsomet leader Rafael Eitan. They signed an agreement with Mr. Rabin's government this month whereby they would join his government in exchange for a cabinet post and a deputy minister post. Tsomet and an honesty-in-government movement called Betzedek appealed the deal to the supreme court, citing a law banning legislators from changing sides in exchange for benefits. A three-man panel led by Chief Justice Meir Shamgar ruled in favour of Tsomet and Betzedek. It said it would publish the reasons for its decision at a later date. Yihad leader Gonen Segev, who was reportedly slated to become energy minister, told Israel Radio that the agreement with Mr. Rabin could still be saved. He noted that the decision did not prevent non-legislators from becoming cabinet ministers, suggesting that Yihad officials outside parliament could still take the posts. Mr. Rabin sought the support of Yihad to gain right-wing support for peace moves. Government parties have 56 of the parliament's 120 seats. Another five legislators belonging to Arab parties support the government from the outside on all peace moves.

Malaysia to probe prince who visited Israel

KUALA LUMPUR (AP) — Investigators are looking into possible changes against the brother of Malaysian King Tuanku Jaafar for flouting a ban on travel to Israel, officials said Monday. The king's brother, Tuanku Abdullah Abdul Rahman, reportedly visited Tel Aviv last month for a round of talks on trade and other issues, according to Israeli media. If the reports of Prince Tuanku Abdullah's visit prove true, his passport could be revoked, Law Minister Syed Hamid Albar said Monday. Malaysia does not recognise Israel. Malaysian officials have said they welcome the present progress towards resolving Palestine-Israeli conflicts, but that it is not yet time for Malaysia to establish relations with Israel.

Electrical fault started Khartoum bank fire

KHARTOUM (R) — Investigators have concluded that a fire which gutted the Bank of Sudan, the country's central bank, in Khartoum in March was started by an electrical short-circuit, a Khartoum newspaper reported on Monday. They ruled out criminal action as the cause of the blaze, Al Ingaz Al Watani said. Losses were limited and important documents were saved, it added.

Village head killed for aiding Israel

HEBRON, West Bank (R) — Palestinians killed a West Bank Arab village leader whom they suspected of collaborating with Israel, Palestinians said on Monday. Palestinian sources said Haiman Mahmud Zaareer, 47, mukhtar of Samra village near Hebron, was ambushed Sunday night and shot 12 times. He was killed instantly. Villagers said Zaareer was known for helping Israeli soldiers hunt Palestinian activists and said he had helped sell Arab land to Israelis.

Turkish president visits Iran

TEHRAN (AFP) — Turkish President Suleyman Demirel arrived in Iran on Monday for a 48-hour visit to discuss bilateral ties as well as regional and international issues. Mr. Demirel, accompanied by a delegation including Minister of State for Economic Cooperation Ali Sevdik Erek and several deputies and businessmen, was welcomed at the airport by President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani. It was his first visit to Iran since becoming president last year. Mr. Demirel told reporters that he would discuss bilateral relations and exchange views on regional and international issues. The two neighbours have the "political will" to boost ties and maintain their "friendly relationship," he said. Mr. Demirel last visited Iran as prime minister in October 1992. The visit will aim to boost coordination in the fight against anti-government rebels and to raise the level of trade between the two countries, according to Turkish diplomatic sources in Ankara.

Israeli hospital set up at 'gates of hell'

TEL AVIV (AFP) — An Israeli medical team set up Monday a field hospital near the Zaareen town of Goma, Environment Minister Yossi Sarid said, describing the Rwanda border area as "the gates of hell." The situation is "horrible, horrible here, there's no description for what is happening here," he told Voice of Israel radio. "It's beyond any nightmare." Seven of eight Israeli army Hercules transport aircraft which left Tel Aviv overnight had landed in the region and the 77-strong team had begun erecting the 150-bed hospital, Mr. Sarid said. According to the medical charity Medecins Sans Frontieres, 3,000 Rwandan refugees are dying every day from cholera and other diseases. "We are establishing our field hospital and tomorrow we hope we will start saving lives. That's what we are here for," Mr. Sarid added.

Heatwave destroys crops in south Morocco

RABAT (R) — An exceptional heatwave with temperatures above 50 degrees Celsius (122 Fahrenheit) has destroyed between 20 and 50 per cent of fruit and vegetable crops in South Morocco. The citrus fruit growers association (ASPAM) said however that citrus groves in the Souss valley were only slightly damaged when seared for a week by a shergui wind from the Sahara. The heat burned plastic sheets over banana and tomato plantations and practically destroyed melon crops planted in the open. The ASPAM gave no figures for losses. It said the damage was being evaluated by the authorities in the area where there is an acute water shortage after two years of drought.

Iran official: Women should be more prominent

NICOSIA (AP) — A top presidential deputy in male-dominated Islamic Iran wants women to get more access to top jobs, including cabinet positions, the Tehran Times reported Monday. However, it was unlikely the call by Ayatollah Mohajerani, vice-president for legal and parliamentary affairs, would greatly change women's roles in a society rigidly controlled by a clerical hierarchy that has long kept them on the sidelines. The English-language daily quoted Ayatollah Mohajerani as saying "social customs and traditions" were to blame for the misconception that women could not be employed at the executive level. He said "lack of self confidence" in women also was a factor hindering their progress. He said he had appointed a woman to head the legal affairs department at the presidential office, which he called a key post. Excerpts of the interview with the paper were carried by the Islamic Republic News Agency. Ayatollah Mohajerani's statement followed rallies last weekend by a prominent opposition group that drew thousands in at least a dozen Western capitals in a show of support for Maryam Rajavi, a top female leader of the Mujahideen-e-Khalq's National Council of Resistance.

Israel reduces forces in W. Bank

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israel recently cut its forces in the West Bank, including the tense city of Hebron, despite an increase in violence, Israeli papers reported Monday. Deputy chief of staff Major General Amnon Shahak told the government there was increased violence in the occupied territories since Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat arrived in Gaza on July 1, the reports said. Gen. Shahak told the weekly cabinet meeting Sunday that the number of stone-throwing and shooting incidents had increased, the daily Haaretz said. Since July 1, four Israelis have been killed by Palestinians, one during violence at the main Erez crossing point from Gaza into Israel last Sunday. A border policeman died early Monday of his wounds incurred when a Palestinian policeman shot him during a mass confusion. Despite Gen. Shahak's report, the army cut its forces in the West Bank and reduced the number of soldiers posted in Hebron by a third, the Jerusalem Post said. An army spokesman declined to comment on the report because of army policy that prohibits discussion of troop movement. The spokesman added that the army periodically reevaluates the security situation in a given area, and then determines deployment accordingly. Military sources said services in the occupied territories had curtailed training of ground troops deployed there, and the redeployment would help restore their combat readiness. The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) has urged Israel to withdraw its troops from main Palestinian centres in the West Bank by next month to reduce friction and help build grass-roots Palestinian support for the self-rule accord, now covering only the Gaza Strip and Jericho. Israel has said a major withdrawal from other West Bank cities and towns would only occur later, at the same time as Palestinian elections. No date has been set for the elections. Israel and the PLO meanwhile postponed until Tuesday a new round of negotiations in Cairo aimed at extending Palestinian autonomy, an Israeli diplomat said in Cairo.

"Both parties agreed late last week for technical reasons to resume talks on Tuesday," he said without elaborating. PLO chief negotiator Nabil Shaath said Wednesday that the talks would resume Monday. Israel and the PLO are negotiating the transfer of civilian powers to the rest of the West Bank still under occupation, as well as issues that were left unresolved by the May 4 agreement that launched Palestinian self-rule in the Gaza Strip and Jericho. Differences on the extent of Palestinian empowerment were reported by Dr. Shaath at the end of the second round of talks last week. The Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas, said on Monday the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) led by Mr. Arafat does not represent the Palestinian people. "The Palestinian authority has accepted occupation, kept the Jewish settlements, abandoned the question of Jerusalem and forgotten the Palestinian refugees," Hamas leader Ahmad Bahr, in an interview. "It does not represent our people," said Mr. Bahr, a teacher at the Islamic University in Gaza City. "These (autonomous) territories are still occupied which gives us a right to pursue a holy war and to resist." Mr. Arafat has repeatedly called for Palestinian unity and held out a hand to the opposition factions such as Hamas which have continued the armed struggle against Israel.

Following is the text of the speech made by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin after signing the Washington Declaration on Monday: The President of the United States, His Majesty King Hussein of the Kingdom of Jordan, friends, ladies and gentlemen. I'll start by the Hebrew word shalom. Millions of eyes all over the world are watching us now with great relief and great joy yet another nightmare of war may be over. At the same time, millions of eyes in the Middle East are looking at us now with great, heartfelt hope that our children and grandchildren will know no more war. Ladies and gentlemen, today we submit to our respective people a wonderful present. The declaration we have signed just now here in Washington is the closest thing to a treaty of peace. We have gone here a long way towards a full treaty of peace, and even though our work has not yet ended, it is my hope and belief that not long from today we shall return to signing a final and a permanent treaty of peace. Mr. President, Your Majesty, it is dusk at our homes in the Middle East. Soon darkness will prevail. But the citizens of Israel and Jordan will see a great light. We have today taken a major step on the road to peace. We and Jordan have chosen to speak to each other rather than to continue the states of war. From here, in the distance of thousands of miles from home, I would like to congratulate today the inhabitants of Israel and of Jordan to remember the fallen in the wars on both sides and to tell children on both sides of the border we hope and pray that your life will be different than ours. I believe that we are a small country with a big heart. We are aware of world agonies and suffering of human beings anywhere. At this hour, when we are celebrating here in Washington, Israeli defence soldiers and medical units are trying to save the lives of thousands, if not more, of people on the verge of death in Rwanda. But at the very same time, Israeli soldiers, a rescue team in Buenos Aires, on the invitation of — of their Argentinian government, are endeavouring to rescue the lives or bodies of those who were attacked, killed and disappeared, bodies of their own brothers as well as of the other human beings from building destroyed by vicious terrorists. This terrible crime was committed against Jews just because they were Jews. The Israeli rescue soldiers in Rwanda as well as those in Argentina, together with their comrades in arms defending us at home, are the same side of the same coin.

Christopher: treaty between Jordan and Israel in months

The Jerusalem Post
ISRAEL and Jordan are likely to sign a peace treaty within a matter of months, Secretary of State Warren Christopher said in an exclusive interview with The Jerusalem Post. Mr. Christopher hinted that an Israel-Jordan peace treaty would be unlikely to progress on the stalled Syrian peace track. Furthermore, Mr. Christopher confirmed for the first time that the U.S. will seek to alleviate Jordanian debt and help modernise the Jordanian army in return for its moving towards peace with Israel. He indicated that new military hardware would be dispatched from excess supplies of the U.S. armed forces. When asked about a timetable for a Jordan-Israel peace treaty, Christopher told The Post: "I think it is likely to be measured in months rather than years. It is up to the parties, of course. But the King, by saying a month was too short, gave you the best dimension of the fact that this is not off in the far distant future." Questioned about whether progress with Jordan was linked to movement in peace talks with Syria, the secretary of state hinted that Amman may not wait for Damascus. "The King addressed that," Mr. Christopher replied. "Jordan is certainly in favour of comprehensive peace, but they retain their sovereign right to move at their own pace." Mr. Christopher declined to discuss anything related to the U.S. role in brokering a U.S.-Syrian agreement, saying those issues were too sensitive to be discussed publicly. The secretary voiced confidence that non-neighbouring Arab states would also be more prone to move towards normalising ties with Israel as a result of yesterday's event. Peace moves with Jordan, coming on the heels of peace with Egypt and the Palestinians, will also provide Israelis with a psychological boost, he said. Christopher said he believes Israelis will now have "a feeling it (is) possible for them to be part of a Middle East community. This is, of course, what the U.S. has always been hoping for, working for, that Israel will be accepted as part of that community and not have to live in the isolation of an armed camp." When asked whether the U.S. would both provide Jordanian debt relief and modernise the Jordanian army, the secretary of state confirmed the U.S. would be helpful to Jordan on both fronts. "Yes, we are committed to working with (King Hussein) in both of those areas," Mr. Christopher answered. "We are working with Congress right at this present time. I am making phone calls now. In terms of furnishing military equipment, Jordan is undertaking a review of their military capability. I think they will probably do what many countries have done, and that is, both downsize and modernize. After they have finished that review, we are prepared to work with them, especially with our excess defence articles." While Mr. Christopher sought to cast the Jordanian military downsizing as a cost-cutting measure, there is speculation that the move to drop from four to three fighting divisions is being done to make modernisation of the Jordanian military unworkable to Israel. Senior Clinton administration officials have privately denied reports that Jordan has already asked for F-16 aircraft, saying no specific requests have been put forward while the Jordanian review is being undertaken. They have also denied remarks made by Mr. Rabin at the Knesset foreign affairs and defence committee last week saying he believed a U.S. memorandum of understanding has been reached. Mr. Christopher confirmed that he is reaching out to congressional leaders to win support for Jordanian debt forgiveness. The secretary of state has already phoned key senators Robert Byrd, Daniel Inouye and Patrick Leahy in a bid to win their support, a senior Clinton administration official said.

Yemen's rivals discuss amnesty

MUSCAT (Agencies) — Yemen's former civil war foes have met in the Omani capital to discuss the amnesty declared by President Ali Abdullah Saleh, Yemeni Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Wahab Al Ansi said here Monday. Mr. Saleh's representatives and southern leaders who had fled to Oman when the two-month civil war ended earlier this month discussed the amnesty declared by Yemen's northern president in May. Mr. Ansi told AFP. The amnesty was to apply to all southerners except their leader Ali Salem Al Beidh and 15 colleagues. But Abdul Aziz Abdul Ghani, who was here for three days with Mr. Ansi, said Sunday the amnesty would also apply to the 16 if they denounced the breakaway state they declared two weeks after war broke out on May 5. Mr. Beidh and his colleagues fled to Oman after the key southern cities of Aden and Mukalla were captured by northern forces on July 7. Mr. Ansi declined to say when the meeting was held and who attended. Mr. Abdul Ghani's delegation and a southern Yemeni team later travelled separately to the United Arab Emirates (UAE). "The UAE is concerned about a return to stability and achieving national reconciliation in Yemen," UAE President Zayed Ben Sultan Al Nahayan told delegates from south Yemen in Al 'Ain, 160 kilometres north of Abu Dhabi. It was the first meeting between Sheikh Zayed and the delegation leader, Haider Abu Bakr Al Attas, who was named prime minister of the breakaway south Yemen state proclaimed on May 21. Mr. Abdul Ghani's delegation meanwhile made its first visit to the UAE since the north won the war. The official UAE news agency WAM said Mr. Abdul Ghani brought a message for Sheikh Zayed from Mr. Saleh. Since the end of the war, Yemen has called for turning a new page in its relations with the Gulf Arab monarchies, most of which gave implicit recognition to the southern breakaway state. In Sanaa, the government announced on Monday the release of around 4,000 prisoners who were captured in the civil war. "This decision by President Ali Abdullah Saleh shows he does not differentiate between the people of unified Yemen," Defence Minister Abdul Rubbo Monsur Hadi told hundreds of prisoners shown on television. "These people will be given a two-week leave to visit their families."

Israelis celebrate peace off Eilat

EILAT (Agencies) — A flotilla of Israeli boats sailed towards Jordanian waters Monday to celebrate approaching peace, waving flags, playing Arabic songs and even dragging one waterski along the maritime frontier. Michael Meir-Saar, spokesman for the city of Eilat, said that passengers on the boat saw two Jordanian patrol boats and one Jordanian tugboat approach the Israeli fleet and wave hello. The festive mood in Eilat was reflected in northern Israel where Israeli children sent balloons and kites across the frontier to Jordanians on the other side. Israel Radio said the kites delivered invitations to Jordanian children urging them to join in a celebration for peace. The hour-long cruise for peace in Eilat came just hours before the historical meeting between King Hussein and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin in Washington. The flotilla of about 50 speedboats, yachts, fishing vessels, glass-bottom tour boats and people on jet skis sailed out of Eilat marina towards Aqaba, flying Jordanian and Israeli flags from their masts. Most of the joint projects planned by Israeli and Jordanian negotiators are focused in this Red Sea resort area and the nearby desert. For example, a road is planned to link the Eilat resort with Aqaba, and international tourists will soon be able to cross from the town to the other. Three boats were decorated with large signs saying: "Eilat residents give peace a hand." "Together towards peace," and "Eilat-Aqaba, the path to peace."

Jordan, Israel sign declaration

(Continued from page 1)
"requite evil with good and he who is your enemy will become your dearest friend." And the Talmud teaches, "that man is a hero that can make a friend out of a foe." Before us today stand friends and heroes. King Hussein, Prime Minister Rabin, all Americans welcome your presence here today. You give us great hope that this house, our people's house, will be a constant witness to a lasting peace that spreads forth to embrace your region. King Hussein: Out of all the days of my life, I do not believe there is one such as this in terms of the feelings, the emotions relating to a long, long struggle in memory of those who passed away, the memories of the victims of war, feelings towards the present and the future, feelings of responsibility towards generations to come in Israel and Jordan, all the Arab World and our entire region. For many, many years and with every prayer I have asked God the Almighty to help me be a part of forging peace between the children of Abraham as Muslims, for the word Islam means submitting to the one God. This is a dream that goes before me — had my great grandfather and now I — and to feel that we are close to fulfilling that dream and presenting generations in our region with a legacy of hope and openness, where normality is that which replaces the abnormal in our lives which unfortunately over the years has become normal, where neighbours meet, where people meet, where human relations thrive, where all seek with a tremendous talent a better future and a better tomorrow. This day is a day of commitment and this day is a day of hope and vision, and we must admit, Prime Minister, and for myself, that we owe President Clinton and our American friends much in having made this possible. You are our partners as we seek to construct and build a new future in our region for all our peoples and for all mankind. Thank you very much indeed for your courtesy and kindness and the warmth of your reception. We are proud to be here with you (peoples?). Thank you. Prime Minister Rabin: The president of the United States, King Hussein, the King of Jordan, they say that the ancient custom of shaking hands developed out of the need to prove that neither person was holding a weapon. The first public handshake between His Majesty, the King of Jordan, and myself a minute ago symbolises much more than that two people's will no longer take up arms against one another. Honourable Mr. President, Your Majesty, the King, what is actually transpiring here, hundreds of millions of people around the world shake hands many times each day. It's perhaps the most routine action, done almost automatically, without thinking, and it is actually a greeting of peace that unites almost all of the peoples of the world. What I do with you, Your Majesty, where there will be another day of excitement and another, and that finally, no one will photograph our handshakes; it will have become a part of the routine of our lives, a custom among all people, the behaviour of every human being. And meanwhile, Your Majesty, the entire state of Israel is shaking your hand.

But at the very same time, Israeli soldiers, a rescue team in Buenos Aires, on the invitation of — of their Argentinian government, are endeavouring to rescue the lives or bodies of those who were attacked, killed and disappeared, bodies of their own brothers as well as of the other human beings from building destroyed by vicious terrorists. This terrible crime was committed against Jews just because they were Jews. The Israeli rescue soldiers in Rwanda as well as those in Argentina, together with their comrades in arms defending us at home, are the same side of the same coin. Mr. President, Your Majesty, there is much more in the Washington Declaration than parties were planning when they decided to prepare this declaration ten days ago. It bears witness to our ability in Israel and Jordan to accelerate our efforts towards peace, to overcome obstacles, to achieve a breakthrough, and to put an end to 46 years of hostility. Mr. President, thank you. Thank you for all you have done for us and for what you will do. We embark on a road which must still be completed, and I am appealing to the United States, the leader of peace efforts in the Middle East, to assist those — those countries, those peoples who demonstrate courage and who take risks, risks for peace because it is a worthwhile goal. The political achievement presented today to the public here in Washington are part of a whole agenda that must still be clarified in serious deliberations ahead of us, from the difficult subjects of boundaries and water to trade and economic relations on which peace in our region will be based — and of course, security and diplomatic relations. Our duty, starting today, is to turn the articles written on the paper into a living reality. This fine job could not have been completed without your leadership and determination in the Middle East peacemaking. You have already established your place in our history, an honourable place, and thank you. Our heartfelt gratitude goes also to Secretary of State Warren Christopher and his peace team who devotedly seek peace and generations of former U.S. administration members who have for years searched for a bridge between Israel, Jordan and the other Arab peoples. Your Excellency, the president of the United States, Your Majesty, the King of Jordan, let me say a few words in Hebrew to the citizens of Israel who are watching us now. (Speaks in Hebrew, not translated). Thank you very much.

Rabin: Declaration will be translated into reality

Following is the text of the speech made by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin after signing the Washington Declaration on Monday: The President of the United States, His Majesty King Hussein of the Kingdom of Jordan, friends, ladies and gentlemen. I'll start by the Hebrew word shalom. Millions of eyes all over the world are watching us now with great relief and great joy yet another nightmare of war may be over. At the same time, millions of eyes in the Middle East are looking at us now with great, heartfelt hope that our children and grandchildren will know no more war. Ladies and gentlemen, today we submit to our respective people a wonderful present. The declaration we have signed just now here in Washington is the closest thing to a treaty of peace. We have gone here a long way towards a full treaty of peace, and even though our work has not yet ended, it is my hope and belief that not long from today we shall return to signing a final and a permanent treaty of peace. Mr. President, Your Majesty, it is dusk at our homes in the Middle East. Soon darkness will prevail. But the citizens of Israel and Jordan will see a great light. We have today taken a major step on the road to peace. We and Jordan have chosen to speak to each other rather than to continue the states of war. From here, in the distance of thousands of miles from home, I would like to congratulate today the inhabitants of Israel and of Jordan to remember the fallen in the wars on both sides and to tell children on both sides of the border we hope and pray that your life will be different than ours. I believe that we are a small country with a big heart. We are aware of world agonies and suffering of human beings anywhere. At this hour, when we are celebrating here in Washington, Israeli defence soldiers and medical units are trying to save the lives of thousands, if not more, of people on the verge of death in Rwanda. But at the very same time, Israeli soldiers, a rescue team in Buenos Aires, on the invitation of — of their Argentinian government, are endeavouring to rescue the lives or bodies of those who were attacked, killed and disappeared, bodies of their own brothers as well as of the other human beings from building destroyed by vicious terrorists. This terrible crime was committed against Jews just because they were Jews. The Israeli rescue soldiers in Rwanda as well as those in Argentina, together with their comrades in arms defending us at home, are the same side of the same coin.

UAE gears up to sell off more shares in firms

ABU DHABI (R) — The United Arab Emirates (UAE) is preparing to sell shares in government-owned firms to increase investment opportunities and a dairy is the latest candidate for private capital, brokers said Monday.

Shares in an Al Ain dairy farm are expected to be up for public subscription in 1994, broker Zuhair Kaswani said.

This would join a planned partial sell-off of an industrial firm, a bank and an oil company in boosting the UAE's unofficial stock market in the second half of 1994.

"We are waiting to sell shares in three companies, emirates Petroleum, Arabit (a bank) and Al Ain Milk and Poultry Farm," Mr. Kaswani said. "We are expecting this before the end of the year."

Abu Dhabi also said in April it was conducting a study of eight plants operated by the General Industries Corporation to boost productivity as a first step to selling its shares.

The UAE is drawing up rules for an official stock market and plans to increase the role of the private sector in the economy.

It approved a plan earlier this year to float shares in the Arab Bank for Investment and Foreign Trade (ARBIT) to raise its capital to 760 million dirhams (\$207 million) and may privatise the Emirates General Petroleum Co.

Georgia posts worst CIS industrial slump

MOSCOW (R) — Georgia headed a "league table" of industrial decline in the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) in the first six months of 1994, but other former Soviet republics also reported big falls, Interfax News Agency has said.

Interfax, quoting figures from the CIS Statistics Office, said Georgian industrial output was 50 per cent below year-ago levels in the first six months of 1994.

Ukrainian production was 36 per cent below year-ago levels while output in Turkmenistan, Kyrgyzstan and Belarus was down 33 per cent, 32 per cent and 31.5 per cent respectively.

Moldovan output fell 30 per cent in Kazakhstan and 25 per cent in Azerbaijan. The average fall in output for all the CIS was 27.6 per cent.

All countries in the loose groupings of former Soviet republics have faced problems adjusting to the breakup of the superpower and the collapse of trading ties between countries.

Inter-state debt is a big problem and most countries owe Russia large sums of money for supplies of fuel and energy — now mostly sold at world prices.

Interfax said Russia's six-month industrial decline of 25.8 per cent was just below the CIS average.

Industrial production declined 20 per cent in Tajikistan while Uzbek output was four per cent below year-ago levels.

Armenia, where 1993 output was hit by a series of explosions on a pipeline supplying gas through Georgia, was the only CIS country to report higher industrial output, Interfax said.

Six-month production there was four per cent above the level in the first 11 months of 1993.

Abu Dhabi development spending unaffected by low oil prices

ABU DHABI (AFP) — The Gulf emirate of Abu Dhabi has pumped an average \$1 billion a year into infrastructure and development projects over the past 25 years, and spending is still in full swing despite weak oil prices, an official report has showed.

The emirate, the main oil producer in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), has invested around \$7.3 billion since 1968 to build its infrastructure and transform the small desert oasis into a modern city.

A breakdown by the planning ministry showed the bulk of the funds were invested during the oil boom of late 1970s and early 1980s, when crude prices were above \$30 a barrel.

Between 1978 and 1982, a record 26.5 billion dirhams (\$7.22 billion) were spent on development, compared with only 1.9 billion dirhams (\$517 million) between 1983 and 1992, the ministry report showed.

Although oil prices sharply declined to below \$20, development expenditure remained as high as 24.3 billion dirhams (\$6.62 billion) between 1988 and 1993, it said.

But he said fixed deposit interest rates which have risen to about four per cent could be some competition for shares, now yielding five per cent in dividends, in attracting investors.

By the year 2000, some 400 million Asians would enjoy spending power equal to the "rich-world average" today — representing a trebling of that segment of consumer power over the rest of the decade, he said.

"This means they will be spending money on houses, cars, holidays, health care and education. If all this consumer spending is to take place, immense investments in infrastructure will be necessary to make it possible," he said.

He outlined project potential ranging from ports and railways in China to hydroelectric power in Laos, as well as numerous engineering, mining and construction projects in the region.

With Japan and Taiwan already among South Africa's top six trading partners, having maintained links during the years of anti-apartheid sanctions, the conference focused on other original and emerging Asian economic "tiger" countries that took a harder line against Pretoria when it was under white rule.

Following the original "tigers" — Hong Kong, Singapore, South Korea and Taiwan — was a new generation comprising Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand, while China and the Philippines were tipped as emerging

"cubs."

Lyman Jiang, a former commercial attaché to the United States and now business manager for the Great Wall Group trading house, outlined huge development and trade potential which he said South African firms were welcome to participate in.

"The Chinese market is one that you cannot afford to lose," he said.

Under China's eight five-year plan and current 10-year development programme it would import goods, equipment, high technology and complete plant worth \$400 billion, Mr. Jiang said.

South Korean trade official Kwangduk Yoon pointed to ambitious development plans in his country too, which sought over 10 years to join the ranks of the major industrial nations.

Special emphasis was being placed on 11 strategic technology development projects, including an information superhighway, in a strategy to bring the region level with the world's most advanced nations in key technical fields.

Malaysian and Thai officials projected their countries as gateways for South East Asia, also offering infrastructure and other investment opportunities.

Suzanne Lian, a partner with legal firm Drew and Napier in Singapore, traced

Greenspan to sit on BIS board

BASEL, Switzerland (AFP) — The chairman of the U.S. Federal Reserve (Fed), Alan Greenspan, is to be given the ex-officio seat available to the board of the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) from September, the BIS announced Monday.

The governor of the Japanese central bank, Yasushi Mieno and of the Canadian bank, Gordon Thiessen, will also sit on the board of the BIS from Sept. 13.

The BIS said: "These developments are expected to contribute to the strengthening of international monetary cooperation under the auspices of the BIS and to reflect the more global scope of the bank's activities."

The Federal Reserve also intended to name a second representative to the board of the BIS as it was entitled to do so as a founding central bank, the BIS said.

The bank said that in order to take account of changes in the Federal Reserve system, a minor change would be needed in the statutes of the BIS. An extraordinary general meeting would be held for this purpose on Sept. 13.

Caribbean nations to create regional trade association

CARTAGENA, Colombia (R) — More than 20 countries from Mexico to Cuba and Venezuela signed an agreement Sunday to create the framework for a Caribbean free-trade association.

Heads of state and government and other representatives signed the agreement to create the Association of Caribbean States during a ceremony in the colonial port of Cartagena.

Cuban President Fidel Castro, Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari as well as Haitian Foreign Minister Claudette Warleigh were among those who participated.

"We... have moved one step closer to realising our dream for the integration of the entire Latin American and Caribbean region," said Barbados Prime Minister Lloyd Erskine Sandiford, who as chairman of the 13-member of Caribbean Community (Caricom) represented the majority of the countries that will join in the trade group.

"We have recognised that cooperation is the most powerful medium for achieving our common goals," he added.

Colombian President Cesar Gaviria, host of the ceremony, said the association would contribute to the eventual creation of "a single trading bloc from Alaska to Patagonia."

The association will initially promote social, political and economic cooperation among its member countries before providing the structure for a trade bloc. Its members are Colombia, Cuba, Mexico, Venezuela, Caricom and Central America.

Another 12 Caribbean territories like the British Virgin Islands will also be part of the association but as observers.

The ceremony preceded the signing of a free-trade agreement between Colombia and Caricom, seen as the first step toward consolidating the association.

President Gaviria and Mr. Sandiford signed the agreement.

Mr. Sandiford said the agreement would help the community improve the standard of living for its six million people. The agreement, which was reached last month after more than a year and a half of negotiations, will come into effect Jan. 1.

Colombia, which has had a relatively small presence in Caricom, has agreed to gradually lower its tariff barriers to Caricom's products over three years, while the community will do the same over five years.

Bilateral trade between Colombia and Caricom is no more than \$100 million a year — less than one per cent of the country's total foreign trade.

Saddam urges ministers to reduce spending

NICOSIA (AFP) — Iraqi President Saddam Hussein has urged ministers to cut their budgets to help stabilise the economy, the official Iraqi News Agency (INA) reported Sunday.

President Saddam, who is also Iraq's prime minister, called on all departments to "make maximum reductions to the costs of their projects," during a government meeting Saturday.

"Reducing expenditure creates a sort of balance in the economy," INA, monitored in Cyprus, quoted him as saying.

President Saddam also called for a ministerial commission to be set up to prevent illegal speculation on medical supplies and waste of them before they reached the people.

The Iraqi economy has been hit hard by an international embargo imposed by the United Nations after Iraqi troops invaded Kuwait in August 1990.

The trade sanctions have cut off Iraqi oil exports, a major source of income.

Iraq was one of the biggest oil producers in the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) before the invasion.

The sanctions were automatically kept in place Monday after the 15 members of the U.N. Security Council failed to reach a unanimous decision on whether they should be lifted.

Last month, President Saddam played down the effects of inflation in Iraq.

South Africa eyes Asian markets

JOHANNESBURG (R) — Malaysia is in the market for coal and steel products, and in return can offer designer-label garments and condoms.

South Korea has its sights set on joining the information superhighway, while Thailand sees a future as a regional financial centre.

Such diverse goods and projects feature in seemingly endless sales and wish lists exchanged by officials and business leaders from South Africa and the Far East as they explore trade and investment opportunities opened up by the scrapping of sanctions.

Addressing a recent conference on prospects for stronger ties, Albert van Niekerk, a deputy director-general at South Africa's foreign affairs department, urged his countrymen to prepare for the Pacific century.

"The rocket-like growth (in economies) and absolute size of Asia's middle class should create some of the biggest business and financial opportunities in history," he said.

He quoted projections that East Asia would match Western Europe as an economic power in less than 15 years, and catch up with the North American Free Trade Association, grouping the United States, Canada and Mexico, in 28 years.

"It is widely believed that

the Pacific century is approaching," he said.

By the year 2000, some 400 million Asians would enjoy spending power equal to the "rich-world average" today — representing a trebling of that segment of consumer power over the rest of the decade, he said.

"This means they will be spending money on houses, cars, holidays, health care and education. If all this consumer spending is to take place, immense investments in infrastructure will be necessary to make it possible," he said.

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HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY JULY 26, 1994

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: This week's aspect day is good for dealing with home conditions that you haven't attended to, but avoid making the change until you have really studied all factors and know total costs.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Avoid calling on a difficult person early in the day. Be alert to carelessness on the part of others. Use good judgment upon your part.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) A financial matter needs more study before making a definite decision. Make this a most worthwhile day and everything will go great.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Show others that you have poise if some unusual situation comes up today. Be sure not to lose your temper with anyone you come in contact with.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) A private matter could be upsetting early in the day, but later everything works out to your advantage in the long run.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Get rid of whatever is not practical in the morning and later you can be happy with your friends. Relax at home tonight with your loved ones.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) You can take care of an important home matter early in

the day and later expand where your career is concerned.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Avoid changing present arrangements at work until you have first studied it well. Plan how to gain your finest aims and desires.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Find a much better way of carrying through with agreements you have made with others. Strive to be more successful in your chosen field of endeavour.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Steer clear of irate associates in the morning and later all will straighten out. Safeguard your reputation from those who wish to tarnish it.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Use extreme care in handling all tasks ahead of you and avoid possible trouble. Plan how to gain your finest aims you are searching for.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Doing something special for persons you really like brings excellent results at this time. Express happiness for those close to you.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Avoid arguments at home early in the day and later there will be real harmony. Make long-range plans for the future and make them a reality.

THE Daily Crossword by Maury Miller

ACROSS
1 Encourage in
5 Kind of lay
9 Becomes sick
12 Crowded response
13 Principal part in
15 Unexpected calamity
16 Post found
17 Poe poem
18 Some poems
21 Demand
22 South African stevedore, once
24 Least doubtful
25 Wretched
28 Women's name
30 "Exodus" hero
31 Explorer La
32 Cady part
37 Actress Teri
38 Hindu instrument
41 Info
42 Lie dormant
44 Excavated
45 Fastener
47 Citron
48 Like Lincoln
51 Narrow band
54 — now and then
56 Dials
58 Post
59 Christopher
62 Nonsense rhyme
64 Precede
65 False idol
66 Hindu garments
67 Boy's
68 Water Rand
69 Wan
70 Norm's abbr.

DOWN
1 God of war
2 Foolish fellow
3 Be worthy of
4 Change abbr.
5 Kitchen items
6 Surinamese
7 — and tone
8 Post Khayyam
9 North
10 Acquire
11 Craving
12 Weighty
13 Unread
15 Suddenly
16 Horse play
20 Relatives of
23 Cracker
24 Funny fellows
25 Nurturing
26 Ireland
27 Legend
28 V.P.'s car
34 Vatican resident
35 Sacred bull
38 40-day period
39 Detailed account
40 Practice
43 Journal
44 Rafter
45 Thomas
46 Socially inept ones
48 Post Khayyam
50 Women's wear
51 Queen of —
52 Now
53 Carmichael Dan
55 Will letters
57 Rebut
58 Leaves out
60 Proceed on
61 Eve's grandson
63 Memorial time



"Handsomeness men get sick a lot. Germs find us very attractive!"

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Mike Anglin

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

HECEL
MUBIE
RAFTLE
FRUOPY

Someone stole the herd! They went thisaway!

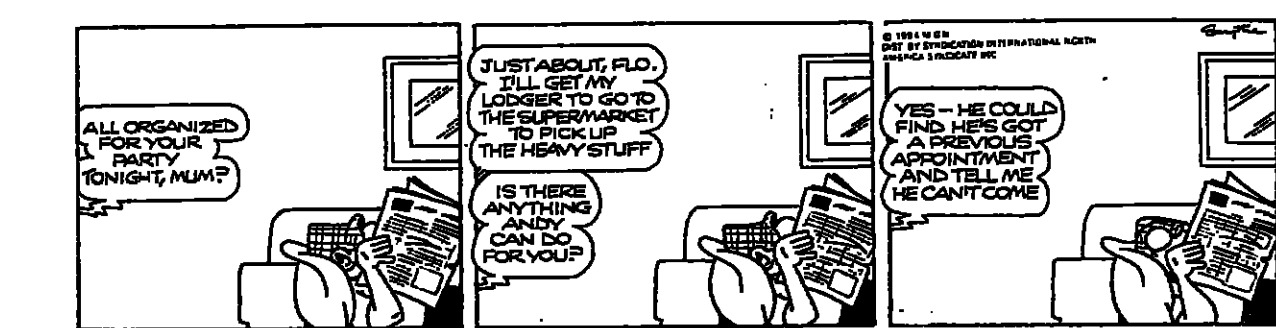
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: A

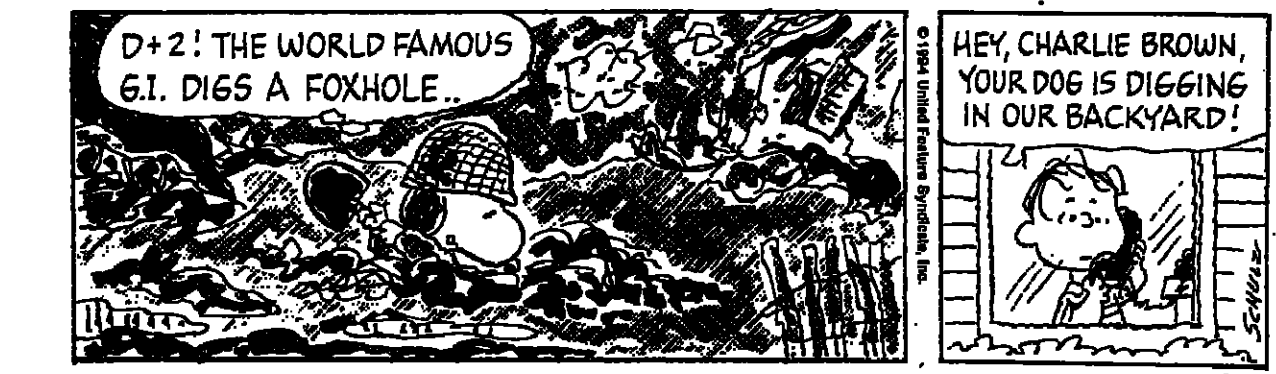
(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: TOXIN LIGHT TANKER HAGGLE
Answer: What new lumberjacks seek that the others dread — GETTING THE AX

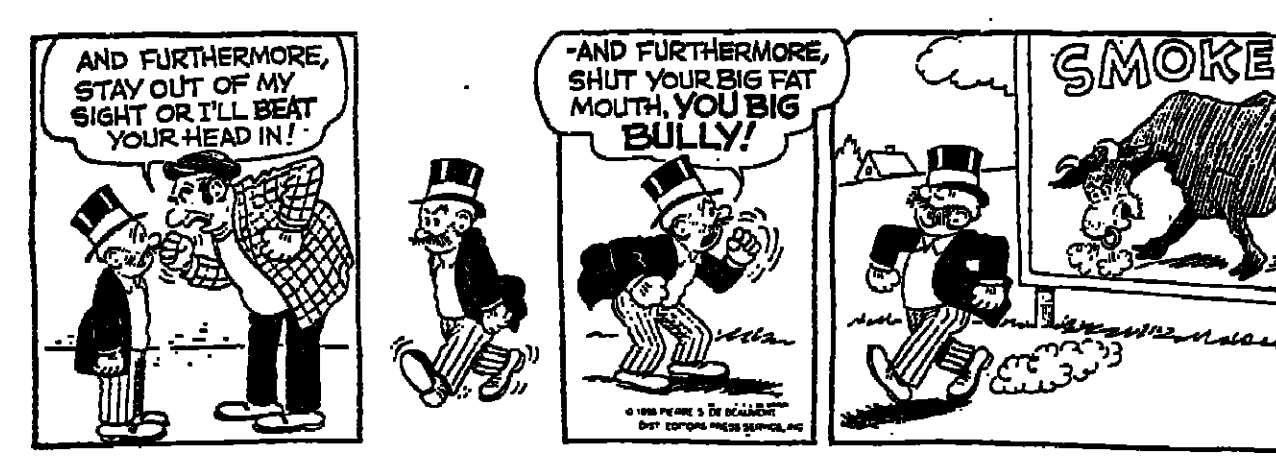
Peanuts



Andy Capp



Mutt'n'Jeff



GOODWILL GAMES

U.S. basketball team rebounds from loss to Russia to defeat China

ST. PETERSBURG, Russia (AP) — The U.S. basketball team, rebounding from its loss to the Russians, advanced to the medal round of the Goodwill Games with a 99-80 victory Monday over China.

The American collegians dominated throughout, with Lou Rowe of Massachusetts scoring a team-high 17 points and Michael Finley of Wisconsin adding 16.

The Americans, who lost 77-75 to Russia Sunday night, finished the preliminary round with a 2-1 record. They will face Italy, 3-0, in the semifinals Wednesday.

Puerto Rico, 2-1, will face either Russia or Argentina in the other semifinal.

In track and field events Monday, Gwen Torrence completed a sprint double by winning the women's 200 metres in 22.09, beating her Russian rival Irina Privalova for the second straight day. Torrence won the 100 on Sunday.

Marina Pluzhnikova of Russia set a world best in the women's 2,000-metre steeplechase, clocking 6 minutes, 11.84 seconds.

The previous best in the event was 6:14.52 by Svetlana Rogova of Russia June 11, 1992.

The event is not recognised by the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) for world record purposes.

In beach volleyball, U.S. teams reached the final in both men's and women's competition.

In an all-American semifinal, Jeff Williams and Carlos Briceño defeated Sinjin Smith and Bruk Vandeweghe, 15-7. They'll face Norway's Jan Kvalheim and Bjoern Naesside, who defeated Australia, 15-10.

On the women's side, Karolyn Kirby and Liz Masakayan advanced to Tuesday's gold-medal game with a 15-10 semifinal win over a Brazilian team. Their opponents will be Monica Rodrigues and Adriana Samuel, who beat the American pair of Barbara Fontana and Lori Forsythe 15-9.

Sunday's loss to Russia by the American basketball team marked the latest in a series of U.S. defeats in international amateur competition.

Since winning the gold at the 1986 Goodwill Games, U.S. amateur teams have lost at the 1988 Olympics, Pan Am games, world championships and the 1990 Goodwill Games.

Russian coach Sergei Belov was the first to admit that his team won't be able to repeat Sunday's victory at next month's world championships in Toronto. That's because the United States will be represented there by Dream Team II, a collection of NBA superstars.

"This was a moral victory," Belov said, suggesting he knows his team will be overmatched against the American pros at Toronto.

But it was the Americans who were always struggling

to stay in the game Sunday. They killed their chances by weak foul-shooting, hitting just 14 of 27 from the line, while the Russians made 24 of 28.

"We could have gotten out of here with a win if we had made our foul shots," head coach George Raveling said. "The game came down to which team was most successful at the foul line. The Russians made theirs in critical times, we missed ours."

Sergei Bazarevich led the Russians with 23 points, while Sergei Babkov added 18.

Shawn Respert of Michigan State, who hit a 3-pointer at final buzzer, topped the Americans with 17 points. Finley scored 14 and Damon Stoudamire of Arizona had 11.

The swimming competition ended Sunday after a one-day session comprising 20 races. All the events were moved to Sunday after a one-day postponement caused by a faulty filtration system that left the water black, then green.

The Swedish team pulled out, refusing to swim in water that looked more akin to a country lake than a competition pool. The irony was that a Swedish company had been responsible for the renovation of the pool in the first place.

"This is the worst I've ever seen, this is not good for health," said Swedish swimmer Daniel Lonnberg.

Melvin Stewart, who won

the 200 butterfly, beating chief rival Russian Denis Pankratov in 1:58.46, said swimmers nicknamed the pool the "Black Lagoon."

"I slowed at every turn, it was difficult to see the wall," he said. "It looked like they filled pool with gatorade today, but it didn't taste like it."

The "creature of the Black Lagoon" was Alexander Popov, the 22-year-old Russian Olympic champion who won gold medals in the 50-metre and 100-metre freestyle events.

He won the 50-metre showdown with world record-holder Tom Jager of the United States, but his winning time of 22.55 seconds was well off the American's record of 21.81. Popov's time of 50.58 in the 100 was also way off his world-record time of 48.21 set last month.

Angel Martino of the United States won both of the women's freestyle sprints and China's Ren Xing swept the 100 and 200 breaststroke. The Chinese won five of 10 women's events, another sign of China's emerging power in the pool.

In track and field, Lance Deal became the first American since Harold Connolly at the 1956 Olympics to win a hammer throw title at a major championship. The 32-year-old Deal, of Eugene, Oregon, hurled the hammer 263 feet, 1 inch to beat nearly all of Russia's top competitors.



Italy gives Lalas 'Wild West' welcome

ROME (R) — Italy's media gave a "Wild West" welcome to Alexi Lalas Monday after the long-haired defender signed with Padova to become the first American to play in Europe's most prestigious soccer league. "Welcome buffalo Lalas, the first Yankee to play in Italy," ran a frontpage headline in Corriere dello Sport newspaper. A cartoon depicted Lalas, whose goatee and flowing red hair made him a celebrity at the World Cup, as Buffalo Bill, the 19th century American famous for his travelling "Wild West show." Lalas, 24, is due to arrive Tuesday to begin training with newly promoted Padova, with whom he signed on a one-season loan from the United States Soccer Federation after two years as an international.

Simpson: Biding his time in jail unit for illustrious inmates

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The Los Angeles County Jail has its own version of the Hollywood walk of fame, where life is different for illustrious inmates like O.J. Simpson, the NFL legend and actor charged with murder.

Simpson, inmate no. 4013970, doesn't endure communal showers, wait in long lines to use the pay phone or even spend as many hours a day locked in his cell. His jailers even wheel in an exercise bike he can use two hours a day to keep the fat from his athletic physique.

His jailers insist Simpson is not getting special treatment. This is just the way things work for inmates assigned for their own protection to "7000," a unit in the Los Angeles County men's central jail.

Others who have taken up temporary residence here:

Christian Brando, son of Marlon Brando, after his arrest in the 1990 killing of his sister's boyfriend; Charles Keating of the failed savings and loan; and serial killer Richard Ramirez, better known as the "Night Stalker."

Erik Menendez, awaiting a second trial with brother Lyle in the killings of their parents, was Simpson's next-door neighbour for one day. Menendez was moved to the two would not overhear each other's telephone conversations, leaving Simpson alone in a row of seven cells. Time magazine reported.

The jail's 6,500 other inmates bunk more than one to a cell, or even in dormitories; use communal shower rooms; wait in long lines to use the phone; and eat together in the cafeteria, 50 to 60 to a table.

Further details of the PRIMARY DENTAL FELLOWSHIP EXAMINATION

To be conducted by the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland in this University from Sunday Oct. 9, to Friday Oct. 14, 1994.

The examination comprises both written papers and oral examinations in (a) Anatomy (b) Physiology and (c) Pathology and Microbiology of importance in dental surgery.

All dental graduates are eligible to apply to take the examination but the RCS in Ireland retains the right to decide who may sit its examinations.

The fee for this examination is JD 350 which must be received together with an application form completed in English and the required supporting documents by the dean, faculty of dentistry, Jordan University of Science and Technology, P.O. Box 3030, Irbid, Jordan (Tel. (02) 2951111 Fax. 2951123 by midday Wednesday Aug. 31, 1994 at the latest.

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Gold Cup winning jockey Lamb killed

LONDON (R) — Cheltenham Gold Cup-winning Jockey Ridley Lamb, who later became a trainer, was one of two men killed when their car plunged into the harbour of a small fishing village in northern England early Monday.

Police named the other victim as jockey Alan Merrigan, 30, a friend of Lamb's.

Another man and a woman in the car were saved by fishermen who raced to the scene at Seahouses, Northumberland at 0230 local.

Lamb, 39, enjoyed his biggest success as a jockey when partnering The Thinker to victory in the 1987 Gold Cup. After retiring as a jockey he took over a trainer's licence.

Local police said the two survivors of Monday's tragedy, Caroline Budge, 20, a racehorse groom, and Stephen Charlton, 39, a jockey's valet, were taken to hospital with shock.

A spokeswoman said all four had been guests of a local pub licensee after normal hours. On leaving, they drove a short distance to the harbour.

She added: "For no apparent reason the car swerved to its right and struck some lobster pots which were stacked on the edge of the quay."

"The car continued to the edge of the quay, struck and mounted a wooden sleeper running along the quay before plunging off the quay into 10ft of water."

Survivor Charlton said: "The car turned over and went into the water. Everything just went black."

"It must have filled up with water in about five seconds. I managed to scramble out of the front passenger seat and the next thing I knew there were hands dragging me from the water."

Budge added: "I don't know how I got out but the rear window shattered on impact and I must have crawled through it."

The crews of two fishing boats were preparing to put to sea for a day's fishing when the car came down a steep incline from the village centre to the harbour.

Fisherman David Shiel said: "The man and the woman must have got out of the back window of the car, which was broken. They were in a hysterical state."

"They were hanging on to mooring ropes and we just tried to calm them down, then got them to work their way along the ropes until they reached a ladder which enabled them to climb out."

But the other two died. Lifeboat official George Olsen said: "We hoped there might have been an air bubble in the car which would have saved them but this didn't turn out to be the case."

In 1989, Lamb was banned from driving for 18 months following a drink-driving conviction when he fell asleep at the wheel after celebrating gaining his trainers' licence.

Lamb's best season as a jockey was in 1980-81 when he rode 85 winners.

Olympic gold medallist dies from fight injury

LAS VEGAS (R) — Former Olympic gold medallist Wangle Napunyi died Sunday from head injuries suffered during a professional fight here Friday night.

Napunyi, who won the Olympic welterweight gold under the name of Robert Wangle while representing his native Kenya at the 1988 games in Seoul, died at 10:30 a.m. (PDT), according to a spokesperson for university medical centre. He was 26.

Napunyi had a large blood clot on the right side of his head, said Dr. Albert Capanna, who performed surgery on the fighter Saturday morning. Napunyi was on a life support system following the surgery.

Napunyi, who lived in Las Vegas, was stopped in the ninth round of his bout scheduled for 10 rounds against world-ranked American wel-

terweight David Gonzales. Napunyi left the ring under his own power and appeared to be all right.

One half-hour after the bout, however, Napunyi started vomiting and then collapsed. Oxygen was administered and an ambulance took Napunyi to hospital.

Napunyi, who had a record of 22-5 as a professional, received \$2,500 for the fight. It was the first death resulting from a boxing match in Nevada since 1982, when South Korean Deuk-Koo Him died of head injuries sustained in a bout against World Boxing Association (WBA) lightweight champion Ray Mancini of the United States.

The outcry resulting from Kim's death resulted in world title bouts being reduced from 12 to 15 rounds.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Liverpool show Hutchison the door

LIVERPOOL, England (AFP) — Liverpool have put Don Hutchison on the transfer list after lurid press coverage of the player's summer holiday. The 23-year-old has also been fined two weeks' wages and banned from the club's pre-season tour of Germany. Hutchison was pictured in newspapers on Sunday wearing only the label of a beer bottle while on holiday.

Eubank lip lands him in court

LONDON (AFP) — World super middleweight champion Chris Eubank was bound over to keep the peace for a year here Monday after appearing in court for swearing at police officers. The 27-year-old WBO title-holder had used the "F" and "C" words in liberal measure to officers who stopped him on the way to Heathrow Airport, London's Horsafer Road Magistrates' Court heard. The charge of using abusive language was withdrawn, as were two road traffic charges, and Eubank agreed to be bound over for a year on forfeit of £750. Nazir Afzal, prosecuting, said: "Eubank took exception to being stopped as he thought there was no justification. He was on his way to the airport. He was continuously being summoned on his mobile phone and he was stuck in traffic. He was on the ropes. He accepts he used foul and abusive language." Richard Edmondson, defending, said his client was stopped on his way to Heathrow Airport by two very young officers. As a high profile personality he was often stopped by people wanting autographs but on this occasion he did not have time.

Hungarian league elects president

BUDAPEST (R) — The financially strapped Hungarian Football League (HFL) has elected a leading businessman as its head, a league official said Monday. Laszlo Benko, 61, president of a cosmetics manufacturing company and of league member Kispest FC, was elected by a wide margin Saturday after two other contenders had in effect quit the race for Hungarian soccer's top job. HFL spokesman Kalman Vandro said. He added that Benko is expected to help bring in new sources of funding for the league, whose once generous state funding has been in decline since the collapse of communism.

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U.S. official wants IAAF president's term limited

ST PETERSBURG (R) — U.S. athletics chief Ollan Cassell has called for a limit on the term served by IAAF presidents, sparking speculation that he is after the job of the current president, Primo Nebiolo.

Italy's Nebiolo has been president of the IAAF (International Amateur Athletic Federation) since 1981 and will seek a fifth term next year.

"Maybe it's time to look at term limits, I don't care who it is," Cassell, the executive director of U.S.A. Track and Field (USATF) and a senior IAAF vice-president, told Reuters.

"In the United States when we have an election, we elect a president, we don't elect someone who has a mandate to do whatever they want to do."

He added he would personally like presidential terms limited to eight years. Cassell has consistently denied he is a candidate for

Nebiolo's job but athletics sources believe the former U.S. Olympian is actively canvassing support for a bid against Nebiolo, the 71-year-old Italian lawyer who has pushed the sport into a new professional era.

The pair are already at loggerheads over American hurdler Danny Harris, cleared by USATF to run after serving two years of a four-year cocaine ban but still banned by the IAAF.

Cassell, 57, said he expected the U.S. federation to discuss his ideas at its annual convention later this year and then submit proposals to the IAAF congress next year before the world championships in Gothenburg, Sweden.

Cassell said he wanted athletes, agents and meeting organisers included in IAAF decision-making to prevent the sport from fracturing. He said both the Professional Golfers Association (PGA) and the Association

of Tennis Professionals (ATP) "appeared to grow up outside of the governing bodies."

"So it's my feeling that if they (athletes, agents and organisers) are going to be inside the IAAF, all of those people need to be members some way and need to have some voice in what's happening."

And that voice, he said, should include participation in decision-making.

"The International Olympic Committee (IOC) and the IAAF have athletes' commissions, but I'm talking about more than that," Cassell said. "I'm talking about each of the national federations bringing an athlete to the IAAF congress, and having them included in the making of rules and regulations."

He said athletes were already involved in the U.S. Olympic Committee and USATF "and it's created a better organisation for us."



Stefan Edberg

Edberg crushes Stoltenberg in D.C. tennis classic final

WASHINGTON (R) — Second-seeded Stefan Edberg of Sweden saved his best tennis for the last and crushed 14th seed Jason Stoltenberg of Australia 6-4, 6-2, in 71 minutes on Sunday to win the \$625,000 D.C. tennis classic Sunday.

Edberg, who won his fourth tournament of the year and increased his career record to 6-0 against Stoltenberg, did not drop a set this week, despite struggling with his normally reliable serve in his matches leading up to the final.

In the final Edberg lifted his first serve percentage to 69 per cent, from his week average of 49 per cent.

Instead, it was Stoltenberg's serve that was suspect throughout the final, as the Australian double-faulted five times, all on crucial

points. Edberg, seventh in the world, broke the 47th-ranked Stoltenberg for a 2-0 first set lead on a double-fault, and again in the same game of the second set on two double-faults from the Australian.

Although Edberg lost his serve twice in the first set, he eventually won it by breaking Stoltenberg in the 10th game with two backhand passing shots.

Edberg raced to a 3-0 lead in the second set and reached 5-2 by playing aggressively on his serve, which he did not lose in the second set.

In the final game of the match, Stoltenberg reached 40-0 with an ace, but Edberg attacked on every point and pushed the score to deuce. Four points later, Stoltenberg double-faulted on match point.

Edberg said that he hoped to use this success as a momentum builder for the U.S. Open, as he lost in the first round at the French Open and the second round at Wimbledon.

"I'd be very happy to go into the U.S. Open playing like this," Edberg said. "Once I got my serve going, I felt I was playing as good as I have since April. My confidence is back. It will make me want to go out and practice during the next two weeks."

Stoltenberg said Edberg was simply too tough for him. "He's played a lot of finals, and it shows," Stoltenberg said. "He stepped up the level of his game and kept the pressure on me. I served a few bad doubles, but I'm not unhappy with way I played."

Asia proposes panel to sort out extra World Cup slots

KUALA LUMPUR (R) — Asia, seeking two more World Cup slots, said Monday an independent panel should decide on the allocation of the eight extra places in the 1998 finals in France.

"It is important that there should be logic and rationale in this that all countries in the world can see," Asian Football Confederation (AFC) General Secretary Peter Velappan said.

World soccer's governing body FIFA announced before the World Cup in the United States that the final slots will be increased from 24 to 32 teams in France.

An AFC proposal put forward by their newly-elected President, Sultan Ahmad Shah of Malaysia calls for an independent panel of experts to look at primarily non-footballing factors like population and economic growth rates to decide which confederations deserve the extra places.

The 4-member AFC's initiative is seen as an attempt to swing FIFA's political focus away from traditional soccer heavyweights in Europe and South America to developing regions like Asia and Africa.

FIFA has indicated the division of the extra places will be decided at an executive committee meeting in September. But fierce lobbying has already begun.

Saudi Arabia became the second Asian side to go through to the second round while South Korea failed only on goal difference to qualify.

"Asia has been offered an extra place, but Velappan insists the continent needs two more places for a total of four."

"Both Asian teams achieved a critical breakthrough at the World Cup in that they proved our faith and trust in the development of Asian football which few people outside the region believed in," he said.

MAHWAH, New Jersey (R) — Steffi Graf received sterner opposition than she expected but rallied to overtake American Lisa Raymond 4-6, 6-4, 6-1 in a 100-minute final Sunday to win the \$150,000 Pathmark Tennis Classic.

Graf, who received a reported guarantee of \$350,000 to spruce up the field, won the tournament for a fifth time. Raymond, a semifinalist last year, collected the second-place purse of \$14,000.

It was the first meeting between world No. 1 Graf, loser in the French Open semifinals and in the opening round of Wimbledon in her last two starts, and the 54th-ranked Raymond, U.S. collegiate champion in 1992 and 1993.

"She took me by surprise," said Graf. "She served incredibly well until late in the

second set." Graf found herself in deep trouble as Raymond, a second-year professional, combined an excellent serving game with accurate ground strokes to take the first set and break in the seventh game of the second set for a 4-3 lead.

Graf was not satisfied with her returns, but her serves were on target in the final set and a half. She finished with 11 aces to seven for Raymond, who had none in the final set.

After Raymond's service break in the second set, Graf went to work and the American's game wilted under the assault.

The 25-year-old German star cracked three deep returns to force errors and got the other point on a backhand approach that drew another miscue to break back

at love and Graf swept five more games to claim the set and lead 3-0 in the third.

Raymond admitted that the chance to beat Graf in straight sets brought on intense pressure and she cracked.

"I was in a kind of a shock when I had a chance to serve for 5-3," said the 20-year-old Raymond, who had an 11-11 record on the tour for the first half of the year.

"My mind got ahead of itself. What I should have done was pretend that I was behind and served it out."

Raymond attacked frequently in the closing games, but constantly missed from the net. "She forces you to think you have to hit to the lines and I went for too much," said Raymond in explaining why she constantly overshot on her volleys. "I was trying for perfection and I shouldn't have."



Steffi Graf

Indurain has rendez-vous next year

PARIS (AP) — In his final French TV interview following the Tour de France, Miguel Indurain was asked for a few words in French.

With a bit of hesitancy, Indurain said in French — "Thank you everyone, until next year."

That's what everyone is waiting for. The 1995 tour — to see if Indurain can win his fifth consecutive title.

"There's still a year to go before the fifth one and we have to train with hope and drive," Indurain said.

"Whether it's possible or not, only the road can say for sure."

He has been making look easy. He finished his fourth in a row by curbing his opponents by the largest victory margin in six years.

With Sunday's victory, the Spaniard joined cycling

greats Jacques Anquetil of France and Eddy Merckx of Belgium as the only riders to win cycling's greatest event four consecutive years.

Anquetil, Merckx and France's Bernard Hinault have won five, but never in straight years. Indurain will have his chance at history in 1995. Only the daring would bet against him.

And if he keeps riding the way he did this year, Indurain may do what no rider has ever managed — win six tours.

Indurain turned 30 this year. But he just seemed to get stronger, one by one knocking out his biggest challengers of the past — Tony Romin Claudio Chiappucci and Gianni Bugno. All were gone by the end of the second week, victims of illness or exhaustion.

"Rominger, Chiappucci and the others were sick... I think a lot of riders enter the tour tired after a lot of early season races," Indurain said. "The tour doesn't pardon anyone. You have to begin with reserves."

Indurain won by the biggest margin since 1988, crossing the line five minutes, 39 seconds ahead of Piotr Ugrumov of Latvia. Marco Pantani of Italy was third, 7:19 back.

It was the largest difference between first and second in the tour since 1988 when Indurain's former teammate, Pedro Delgado, won by more than seven minutes.

"I'm not going downhill yet," Indurain smiled. "After my third place in the Tour of Italy, everyone started questioning things. I answered on the road, in the tour."

Among the crowds cheering him on the Champs Elysees were eight busloads of people from Villava, his Pyrenees hometown of 7,500. Back home, cycling fans rang church bells, shot off fireworks and uncorked champagne.

Indurain rode near the head of the pack most of the day on the 21st stage from Euro Disneyland to the Champs-Elysees, a total of 175 kilometres (109 miles). The stage was won by France's Eddy Seigneur, who overtook Frankie Andreu of



The winner of the 81st Tour de France, Miguel Indurain (centre), is joined by Russian Piotr Ugrumov (left) and Italy's Marco Pantani on the final podium Sunday in Paris (AFP photo)

the United States in the last 200 metres. Andreu tried to break away in the final two kilometres (1.2 miles), but failed.

This year's race started in Lille, northern France, on July 2 and covered 3,986 kilometres (2,479 miles) in a counterclockwise course around the country, with a crossing of the English Channel thrown in for good measure.

Ugrumov, second to Indurain in last year's Tour of Italy, moved from ninth to second after winning two stages and taking second in another in the Alps.

The Latvian beat Indurain by more than three minutes in the last individual time trial, but Indurain had the

tour won by then.

Americans fared poorly. Three-time champion Greg Lemond — the last person before Indurain to win the tour — dropped out less than a week after the tour started. It may be his last — the GAN team said it will not re-sign him next year.

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OUR THANKS AND APPRECIATION FROM AMMAN LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL

The board, players, coaches, adult volunteers and parents of Amman Little League baseball would like to express their deep gratitude to all individuals and companies that have made it possible for two teams of players to represent Jordan in this year's Little League European Tournament in Germany.

We are honoured and grateful for the support of His Majesty King Hussein and Her Royal Highness Princess Basma, who have made it possible for the Little League team of 11 and 12-year-old players to participate in the tournament.

We also wish to thank Mr. Haseeb Sabbagh for his generous support that allowed the Little League team of 13, 14 and 15-year-olds to represent Jordan in the seniors division tournament for the first time.

The Little League is also most grateful for the assistance and support provided to the teams by Royal Jordanian Airlines, Mr. Mahmoud Balqaz, Mr. Aqel Biltaji, Aramex International Courier, Mr. Ramzi Masarweh, Gulf Express, Mr. Tewfic Abu Aita, and Nisr Contracting Company.



The players and coaches of the 1994 Little League European tournament seniors team: Elias Kassar, Nabil Atallah, Fadi Tal, Omar Masarweh, Troy Gustafson, David Tidwell, Timothy Kerr, William Kerr, Carl Cutbert, Shukri Saleh, Roy Johnson, Abdul Rahman Abdul Haq, B.J. Oliver, Said Mufri. Coaches: Kim Gustafson, David Gossin.



The players and coaches of the 1994 Amman Little League European tournament team: Saad Kurdi, Tamer Naber, Raja Khouri, Nayef Ahul, Mohammad Darwish, Zaid Haj Hassan, Mark Abdullah, Karim Atalla, Karim Ayyoubi, Omar Azar, Salim Baydoun, Hazim Hindash, Omar Saleh, Samer Sharayba. Coaches: Alonzo Fulham, Henry Francis.

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNAN HIRSCH
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YOU BE THE JUDGE

Neither vulnerable. West deals.

NORTH
♠ 9 8 5
♥ K 7 5
♦ A K 10 9 8 2
♣ A 6

WEST
♠ Q 10 8
♥ 10 8 3
♦ Q 8 3
♣ 10 9 8 5 4

EAST
♠ K 8 7 6 4 2
♥ A 4
♦ A 4
♣ 7 3 2

SOUTH
♠ A 7
♥ Q J 10 6 2
♦ 8 7 3
♣ K Q J

The bidding:
West North East South
Pass 1 1* 2
Pass 4: Pass Pass
Pass

Opening lead: Three of ♠

This hand was played in the Life Masters Pairs event at the recent Summer North American Championships held in Washington, D.C. Follow the proceedings and decide whether anyone is at fault in the bidding or play and, if so, who. Remember the game is duplicate and overcalls, or undercalls, are crucial.

The auction was certainly normal. Once South could bid voluntarily at the two-level, North had

more than enough strength and trump support to venture game. There are no charges for the bidding.

A low spade was led to the king and ace. Declarer played three rounds of clubs, discarding a spade from dummy, then ruffed a spade. The king of hearts was ducked by East and the trump continuation went to the ace.

East, Henry Beth of New York, found the killing defense—he returned a diamond. Declarer could not get off the table without allowing West to ruff the third diamond, so the defenders collected two tricks. What's your verdict?

It is not easy to spot, but declarer could have made 12 tricks. Before leading the second heart, declarer should have cashed the ace and king of diamonds. If a defender were to ruff, declarer would be no worse off than with the adopted line. As the cards lie, East has only spades left on winning the ace of hearts. Declarer can ruff the spade return, draw the outstanding trump and score a third diamond for a second overtrick.

Congratulations to East on fine defense and to any of our readers who charged declarer with a miscue.

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STEEL MAGNOLIAS		Nabila Obeid and Farouk Al Fishawi		CONCORD "1"		THELMA AND LOUISE		Today & Everyday		Present their play:	
Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30		Unveiling The Secrets		Men In Tights		Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30		Abu Awwad in social comedy		WHAT A PEACE!	
		Arabic		CONCORD "2"		Starting Aug. 1 the Political play		"PUNCTURED BAG"		Daily at 8:30 p.m.	
		Shows: 12:30, 3:15, 5:15, 6:45, 8:30, 10:30		GET AWAY		"SAHRA KANAUNIEH"				The theatre is closed on Tue days	
				Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30							

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3

U.S. aims for Israel-Syria declaration of principles

CAIRO (Agencies) — The United States is aiming for a Syrian-Israeli declaration of principles by reconciling the two countries' positions in peace negotiations, a Cairo weekly reported Monday.

But Syria has rejected the proposal while Israel raised reservations, said Al Arabi. It quoted informed sources at the Syrian foreign ministry as saying that Egypt, whose President Hosni Mubarak visited Damascus on Sunday, was working to deal with Syria's objections.

U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher submitted the peace plan during his Middle East tour last week.

Under the plan to sign a declaration of principles, direct talks would be held in Cairo at a high level between the two countries.

A diplomatic source in Cairo confirmed details of the plan and told AFP that Syria objected on the grounds that U.N. Security Council Resolution 242 on exchanging land for peace made no mention of normalisation of ties with Israel.

The United States, as chief sponsor of the Middle East peace process, proposed that "examination of the questions linked to normalisation be delayed until we reach a declaration of principles."

But Israel wanted Syria to agree on the principle of total normalisation before the signing of a declaration of principles.

The U.S. plan also called for a compromise in the timetable for Israel's withdrawal from the Golan Heights it seized from Syria in the 1967 Middle East war.

Syria wanted the pullout completed within a year while Israel had proposed eight years.

In Damascus, official newspapers reiterated on Monday that Syria would not budge from the principle of Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab land in return for a comprehensive peace deal between the Arabs and Jewish state.

Mr. Assad praised efforts made by Mr. Christopher to revive the Syrian-Israeli peace talks but said no tangible progress has been made. "He (Christopher) is exerting good efforts. Naturally we can't say that the peace process is facing a deadlock and we can't say it is moving on an open way..."

Mr. Christopher shuttled between Syria and Israel before returning to Washington on Friday. He told reporters on his plane on the way home that the two countries had moved beyond "psychological testing" of each other.

Asked what was the formula accepted by Syria to link a withdrawal from the Golan and the normalisation of ties with Israel, Mr. Assad said:

"In fact we have not reached this point yet. The contacts carried by the U.S., including those by Warren Christopher, are being carried out within the framework of the peace process and the Madrid peace conference..."

"The process is now at what we could describe as an exploratory stage or something like this. It is still early to decide (on this)..."

King voices pride in his people

Following is the text of King Hussein's address after the signing of the Washington Declaration:

President Clinton, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, ladies and gentlemen,

And so it is that on this day at this house of the great American people we have been able to take a historic step which we hope and pray will be to the benefit of our peoples within our entire region — Jordanians, Israelis and others. This is the moment of a commitment and of a vision.

Not all of what is possible is within the document we have just ratified, but a mod-

est, determined beginning to bring to our region and our peoples the security from fear, which I must admit has prevailed over all the years of our lives, the uncertainty of every day as to how it might end, the suspicion, the bitterness, the lack of human contact.

We are on our way now truly towards what is normal in relations between our peoples and ourselves and what is worthy. We will meet as often as we are able to and as required with pleasure to

shepherd this process on in the times ahead.

At this moment, I would like to share with you all the pride I have in my people, the people of Jordan, and their maturity and their courage and, in what I have been blessed with, their trust and confidence and I believe the commitment of the overwhelming majority to the cause of peace.

The term used in international documents as they affected us so far is the state of belligerency and the end of the state of belligerency. I think both in Arabic and Hebrew our people do not

have such a term. But we have accomplished what we are committed to is the end of the state of war between Jordan and Israel.

Thank you so very much indeed, Mr. President, for all your kindness.

Thank you, Prime Minister.

Thank you, all our dear friends. A warm thanks to the American people — our partners in the past, in the present, and in the future. God bless you and bless our march for the future and towards the future of peace in our region.

Thank you.

Clinton: King and Rabin give their people a new life

Following is the text of President Clinton's speech at the signing of the Washington Declaration on Monday:

Your Majesties, Prime Minister and Mrs. Rabin, distinguished guests,

Today we gather to bear witness to history. As this century draws to a close, a new era of peace opens before us in ancient lands as brave men choose reconciliation over conflict.

Today, our faith is renewed. As we write a new chapter in the march of hope over despair on these grounds and at this historic table, we remember the courage of Anwar Sadat and Menachem Begin and the leadership of President Carter at Camp David 15 years ago, the efforts of President Bush to bring Israel and her neighbours together in Madrid two years ago, and that shining September day last year when Prime Minister Rabin and Chairman Arafat declared that their two peoples would fight no more.

Today, in that same spirit, King Hussein and Prime Minister Rabin will sign the Washington Declaration. After generations of hostility, blood and tears, the leaders of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the State of Israel will solemnly declare with the world as their witness that they have ended the state of belligerency between them. From this day forward, they pledge to settle their differences by peaceful means.

Both countries will refrain from actions that may adversely affect the security of the other and will thwart all those who would use terrorism to threaten either side.

It takes but a minute or two to cross the River Jordan, but for as long as most of us can remember, the distance has seemed immense. The awful power of ancient arguments and the raw wounds of recent wars have left generations of Israelis,

Jordanians and Palestinians unable to imagine, much less build, a life of peace and security. Today King Hussein and Prime Minister Rabin give their people a new currency of hope and the chance to prosper in a region of peace.

Under the Washington Declaration, Jordan and Israel have agreed to continue vigorous negotiations to produce a treaty of peace based on Security Council resolutions 242 and 338. King Hussein and Prime Minister Rabin will meet as often as necessary to shepherd and personally direct those negotiations. Their objective is a just, lasting and comprehensive peace between Israel and all its neighbours, a peace in which each acknowledges and respects the territorial integrity and political independence of all others and their right to live in peace within secure and recognised boundaries.

In the meantime, Jordan and Israel have decided to take immediate steps to normalise relations and resolve disputes in areas of common concern. They have agreed to survey the international border based on the work of their boundary subcommittee. They have resolved that negotiations on water resources should aim to establish the rightful allocation between the two sides of the waters of the Jordan and Yarmouk Rivers. They have determined that their police forces will cooperate in combating crime, with a special emphasis on drug smuggling. They have set up as their joint purpose the abolition of all economic boycotts and the establishment of a bilateral economic cooperation.

And, as of today, Jordan and Israel have agreed to take the first practical steps to draw their people together

and to let the peoples of the world share in the wonders of their lands. They will establish direct telephone links, connect two nations' electricity grids, open two border crossings between their nations, including one at Aqaba and Eilat and another in the north, accelerate the negotiations aimed at opening an international air corridor between the two countries, and give free access to third country tourists travelling between their two nations.

These are the building blocks of a modern peace in ancient holy lands.

Your Majesty, at our first meeting you wrote me a letter after our first meeting you wrote me a heartfelt letter in which you referred to your revered grandfather, King Abdullah. You told me that his untimely assassination at the entrance to Jerusalem's Al Aqsa Mosque had come at a time when he was intent on making peace with Israel.

The Washington Declaration is the product of much hard work. Less than a year ago, Crown Prince Hassan of Jordan and Foreign Minister Peres of Israel met here publicly for the first time. Together, with the wise counsel and persistent energy of the secretary of state, Warren Christopher, Israel and Jordan have pursued peace, and we are all in their debt.

Had he completed his mission, you said to me, your region would have been spared four decades of war. Today, 43 years later, Abdullah's grandson has fulfilled his legacy.

And in the declaration you will sign, your role as guardian of Jerusalem's Muslim holy sites, Al Aqsa among them, has been preserved, and Israel has agreed to accord a high priority to Jordan's historic role regarding these holy sites in final status negotiations.

Prime Minister, when you

first visited me in the White House, you spoke eloquently of your soldier's life defending and guiding your nation through four bloody decades of struggling to survive. You told me your people had had enough bloodshed, that this was time to make peace. Ten months ago you stood on this same lawn and shook the hand of Yasser Arafat, the leader of the Palestinian people. Today you stand together with King Hussein, descendant of the Prophet Muhammad, to declare that Jordan and Israel have ended their conflict. In holding out to your people the hope of a normal, secure life, you, sir, have fulfilled the mission of your life and of all those who have fought by your side for so long.

Now, as we go forward, we must guard against illusions. Dark forces of hatred and violence still stalk your lands. We must not let them succeed. King Hussein, Prime Minister Rabin, as you and your people embark on this journey of peace, we know the road will not be easy. Just as we have supported you in coming this far, the United States will walk the final miles with you.

We must all go on until we ensure that the peace you are seeking prevails in the Holy Land and extends to all Israel's Arab neighbours. Our common objective of a comprehensive peace must be achieved.

Now as we witness the signing of this declaration and applaud the bravery of these men, let us remember that peace is much more than a pledge to abide by words on a page. It is a bold attempt to write a new history. Guided by the blessings of God, let us now go forward and give life to this declaration, for if we follow its course, we will truly achieve a peace of the generations.

Thank you very much.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Settlement hosts summer camps for extremists

KIRYAT ARBA (AP) — Summer camp at this West Bank settlement started Monday with a quiet prayer at the graveside of Baruch Goldstein who carried out the Hebron mosque massacre. Then it was time for activities, including weapons training. "This is a symbol, because they want to stop us," organiser Itamar Ben-Gvir told the Associated Press. He was referring to the government's ban on extremist groups like Kach after Goldstein — a Kiyat Arba resident and Kach follower — shot dead at least 30 Muslim worshippers in a Hebron mosque on Feb. 25. The camp, taking place mostly at the settlement's athletic field, was organised by former Kach activists who were careful not to flout the law. Instead of wearing banned yellow Kach T-shirts, they wore yellow T-shirts boasting "We are all Kahane," a reference to the late founder of Kach, Meir Kahane, who was assassinated in New York in 1990. On the back of the T-shirts was the inscription, "We shall not be broken."

Israeli guard jailed for attack on Palestinian

TEL AVIV (AFP) — An Israeli border guard was jailed for a year on Monday for beating up a Palestinian worker, court officials here said. The Tel Aviv district court condemned Yitzhiel Shitrit to one year in jail, with two years suspended, for attacking Ahmad Djinjira from the West Bank who had travelled to Tel Aviv without a work permit on April 13. The border guard and two colleagues took Mr. Djinjira to an isolated spot where they broke two of his ribs and stole his wallet. The Palestinian lodged a complaint. The two other guards have already been sentenced to several months in prison.

Iran police seize 500 kilos of opium

TEHRAN (AFP) — Police seized almost 600 kilogrammes of opium near the Pakistani border in southeast Iran, mostly from a camel caravan, the official Iranian news agency IRNA reported Monday. Security forces seized 534 kilogrammes of opium in a raid on the camel caravan on the Dashtak region of Sistan in Baluchistan province, but the traffickers managed to escape, it said. Also since Saturday, they seized 60 kilogrammes of opium and other drugs during routine checks in the Zahedan and Iranshahr regions of the same province.

Twenty killed in Kurdish feuding

ERBIL (AFP) — Twenty people were killed over the past week in clashes between the two main Kurdish groups controlling northern Iraq, Kurdish official Yunis Roshbeany said Monday. Sixteen were killed last Tuesday when the Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) and the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) clashed in Beharka village, near Erbil, according to Mr. Roshbeany, the region's interior minister. Four other were killed in Erbil as a dispute over water turned violent, he added. There were also an unspecified number of wounded in the clashes.

3 killed in Aswan sand mound collapse

CAIRO (AP) — Two men and a teenage boy suffocated Monday when a sand mound gave way, trapping them underneath, Egypt's Middle East News Agency (MENA) reported. The accident occurred in Al Shala area near Aswan, a tourist centre, 700 kilometres south of Cairo. MENA identified the victims as Fawzi Hussein, 40; his 13-year-old son Karim, and an assistant, Abdul-Rahim Suleiman, 46. The agency said they were digging at the base of the sand mound when it gave way. Mohammad Bassouni, head of the Aswan civil defence force, told MENA that incorrect quarrying led to the collapse.

7 killed in Pakistan shrine roof collapse

KARACHI (AFP) — Seven people were killed and 20 injured when the roof of an ancient shrine to a Muslim saint, Lal Shahbaz Qalandar, collapsed Monday, officials said. The maion dome of the shrine in Sehwan Sharif town 195 kilometres north of here, had caved in while worshippers were in the prayer hall. Relief agencies had earlier feared dozens of people were trapped inside. However, officials told AFP by telephone that most of the rubble had been cleared by sunset and only seven bodies had been retrieved. They did not expect the toll to rise. Preliminary investigations indicate that the dome of the 200-year-old structure had been weakened by heavy monsoon rains earlier this month. The shrine to the mystic saint Shahbaz Qalandar, who has a large following in Pakistan and elsewhere, attracts thousands of devotees each year.

Flights still delayed in France

PARIS (AP) — Air traffic controllers in southeast France returned to work Monday after a three-day strike that stranded tens of thousands of travellers on one of the busiest summer weekends. Delays of 25 minutes were reported for airplanes flying over the region, a minor irritant compared to the five to six hour waits and thousands of cancelled flights from Friday through Sunday. The strike by controllers at the Aix-en-Provence regional centre affected not only French domestic flights but planes flying between northern and southern Europe. Flights linking Germany, Britain and Switzerland with sunny Spain, Italy, Portugal and Tunisia were badly affected.

Israeli warplanes attack S. Lebanon

SIDON (Agencies) — Israeli jets bombed resistance strongholds in the Iqlim at-Toufah ridge in southern Lebanon in a raid Monday, security officers said here.

Four Israeli bombers fired eight missiles at positions of the Hizbollah movement in a 10-minute raid. Clouds of smoke rose above the targets.

Hizbollah guerrillas and Lebanese soldiers retaliated with heavy artillery fire and a surface-to-air missile.

There were no immediate details of casualties.

Earlier an Israeli officer was killed in artillery exchanges between the Israeli army and Hizbollah guerrillas, security officers in Marjayoun said.

Israel's proxy South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia said several soldiers were also wounded in the shelling of Tallet Loubiyeh, near Mansoura, in Israel's self-declared "security zone."

The shells were fired from the Iqlim at-Toufah ridge. The attacks came shortly after Israeli forces unleashed an eight-hour artillery barrage against Hizbollah strongholds in the Bekaa Valley, police in Rashaya said.

Hizbollah said in a statement from Beirut that it had killed or wounded "a large number of men" in shelling and an attack on an Israeli patrol.

Security sources said Lebanese guerrillas wounded three Israeli soldiers in South Lebanon on Monday and fired Katyusha rockets at a village on the Israeli border.

They said a Sagger missile apparently fired by Hizbollah fighters hit an Israeli military vehicle near the village of Loubiyeh, in Israel's self-declared South Lebanon "security zone."

Simultaneously, 12 Katyusha rockets exploded just outside the Israeli-held village of Kfar Kila almost on the border demarcation line.

The hostilities came on the first anniversary of the heaviest Israeli blitz of South Lebanon since its 1982 invasion. At least 150 people were killed and nearly 500 wounded in the weeklong Israeli air, sea and artillery onslaught on Lebanon-based guerrillas July 1993.

Dr. Said said.

But Mr. Mansour asserted that the opposition was moving within a clear programme which would use different forms to voice its position as the peace process continues.

"The opposition did not want to mobilise its supporters today. It wanted a symbolic expression of its position and this is not the end of it," Mr. Mansour said.

He said the objective of

Critics of peace process on low wavelength

(Continued from page 1)

ness of the event," which he described as "a catastrophe."

"Failing to increase the opposition to this national catastrophe is the historic responsibility of the leadership of all parties and political movements in the Kingdom," Dr. Said said.

But Mr. Mansour asserted that the opposition was moving within a clear programme which would use different forms to voice its position as the peace process continues.

"The opposition did not want to mobilise its supporters today. It wanted a symbolic expression of its position and this is not the end of it," Mr. Mansour said.

He said the objective of

Monday's sit-in was to refute the government's "claim that the majority of the Jordanian people are behind the talks."

"When you have the representatives of eight political parties and professional unions protesting the talks, it means not all the people are behind them," said Mr. Mansour.

Mr. Mansour said the Islamists will continue to protest the peace negotiations with Israel in all available legal and constitutional manners as IAF Secretary General Ismail Al Farhan said normalisation with Israel will not occur even if hundreds of accords are signed.

The IAF's stress on "constitutional opposition" was seen as a sign of maturity by the Islamists.

"The ideological, idealistic and other opposition groups responded to the democratic change with great responsibility and flexible pragmatism that denounced violence and adopted realism without compromising their principles," prominent Deputy Abdul Karim Al Kabarti told the Jordan Times.

"You find the leadership of the Islamists acting in a flexible and realistic manner and with a great deal of political responsibility," he said.

Supporters of the peace process emphasised "realism" when they explain the reaction of the Islamists to the Washington summit.

When it comes to the King, observers say, there is no mistaking on whose side the people will stand; they are

behind the King. The silent majority is supportive of the peace process observers said, citing the business-as-usual state of affairs in the Kingdom Monday as a proof.

King Hussein acknowledged the stand of the people in the White House yesterday.

"At this moment, I would like to share with you all the pride I have in my people, the people of Jordan, and their maturity and their courage and, in what I believe I have been blessed with, their trust and confidence and I believe the commitment of the overwhelming majority to the cause of peace," King Hussein said at the South Lawn of the White House after signing the Washington Declaration.

With a doctorate degree in political science from Cambridge University, Dr. Abba said that "real peace" means "Jordan for Jordanians" and "Palestine for the Palestinians."

(Continued on page 7)

Jordanian views differ on peace process, outcome

By Mariam M. Shahin
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — As His Majesty King Hussein and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin marked history with their first ever public meeting in Washington Monday, some Jordanians at home had markedly different views about the Kingdom's move to accelerate the peace process and move closer to peace with the Israelis.

Many business people expressed hope that peace will result in an economic and social unity between Jordan and the Palestinian self-rule areas which, they believe, will reap great benefits for Jordan. Meanwhile, traditional Jordanian nationalist politicians expressed anger at

and frustration with the peace policy which they see as undermining Jordan's long-term independence and character.

Business magnates like Dr. Kamal Shaer, who heads one of the largest engineering consultancy companies in the Middle East — Dar Al Handaseh, is one Jordanian who has great hopes for the future.

"I am a firm believer that peace is coming; one of the side products of the peace will be the development of the Palestinian economy which will not only be economically beneficial for us, but will also contribute to stability in this region as a whole," said Dr. Shaer.

"It is a long process, but I believe it will ultimately lead

to greater prosperity for all in this region," he added.

Dr. Shaer, who is a member of Jordan's 40-seat Senate, speaks of a "common market" (Jordanian-Palestinian market) with future expansion which would include Egypt, Syria and Lebanon and with some economic cooperation with Israel.

"After all," says Dr. Shaer, "we were one country. So why should we not at least have one market? The Jordanian dinar is already the most favourite currency in the occupied territories."

Dr. Shaer, along with other Jordanian businessmen, like Khalil Talhouni and Khalidoun Abu Hassan, have already invested in both Jordan and Palestine of the

future.

All three business tycoons have invested in the Palestine Company for Development and Investment (PCDI), a \$200-million-Palestinian offshore public shareholding company registered in Liberia, which elected Dr. Shaer, a native of Salt, as president of the board of trustees.

Dr. Shaer's company already has sketches of projects in the West Bank up on its office walls in Jabal Hussein.

Likewise, Khalil Talhouni is preparing for the time of peace, financing the building of one of the five new mega-hotels being built outside Petra to accommodate the increased flow of tourists Jordan is expected to get as a result of the peace accords

with Israel.

But not all Jordanians are businessmen and not all are optimistic about the future of the Kingdom in times of peace with Israel.

Highly vocal critic of Palestinian-Jordanian integration, former Lower House of Parliament Deputy Dr. Ahmed Awaidi Abbadi, has made it his full-time job to bash normalisation policies and promote the protection of Jordanian markets and of Jordan's national identity.

With a doctorate degree in political science from Cambridge University, Dr. Abba said that "real peace" means "Jordan for Jordanians" and "Palestine for the Palestinians."

(Continued on page 7)



Actor Gene Kelly suffers mild stroke

LOS ANGELES (R) — Gene Kelly, the acclaimed actor and dancer noted for both the elegance and athleticism of his dancing, was in stable condition Sunday after suffering a stroke, a hospital spokesman said. "He's resting comfortably. He suffered a mild stroke," said UCLA Medical Centre spokesman Chris Woodson. Kelly, 81, best known for the musicals 'Singin' in the Rain and 'An American in Paris', was admitted to the hospital Saturday afternoon, Mr. Woodson said. It was not certain whether he had suffered any permanent damage or when he would be released, Mr. Woodson said.

Kelly won acclaim as an actor, choreographer, singer and director in a varied career that won him a special Academy Award, but he is known best for his exuberant, seemingly spontaneous dancing. "I belonged to the sweat-shirt generation and wanted to make the dance, in costume and movement, akin to the world we were living in," Kelly once said. "I wanted to dance (like) sailors, fighters, steel workers and truck drivers."

Kelly was awarded a special Academy Award in 1951 "in appreciation of his versatility as actor, singer, director and dancer, and especially for his brilliant achievements in the art of choreography on film."

The former dancer and actor was hospitalised in May in San Francisco for nine days, for treatment of cellulitis — a bacterial infection of the skin, in his right leg, St. Mary's Medical Centre had said then.

Now, as we go forward, we must guard against illusions. Dark forces of hatred and violence still stalk your lands. We must not let them succeed. King Hussein, Prime Minister Rabin, as you and your people embark on this journey of peace, we know the road will not be easy. Just as we have supported you in coming this far, the United States will walk the final miles with you.

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Thank you very much.

U.K. mother: baby lost weight during kidnap

LONDON (R) — A British mother whose baby was kidnapped just hours after birth said Monday she was shocked at her daughter's weight loss when she was returned to her 16 days later. Karen Humphries told the Daily Mirror newspaper her baby had lost 13 ounces (370 grams) when found by police in a house in the central England city of Nottingham after a nationwide search. "When they brought her back to me I was shocked at how tiny she was," Humphries said. The abduction of baby Abbie, whose weight dropped to eight lb three ounces (3.7 kg), stunned the British public. "Everyone has said how the woman who took Abbie had cared for her and looked after her. But in my opinion she didn't know what she was doing," said Humphries, a former health worker. "I would have expected her to be well beyond her birth weight. As a midwife, I would have been very concerned with a baby who was losing weight like that." But the abduction apparently did not harm the child. "She's fine. She's very contented. There are no problems at all.

Clinton rocks 'N' rolls at reunion

HOT SPRINGS, Ark. (AP) — He mingled with old buddies, posed for pictures and danced to '60s rock 'N' roll. By all accounts, President Mr. Clinton had a ball at his 30-year high school class reunion. Mr. Clinton and his fellow baby boomers from the Hot Springs High School class of '64 partied from Saturday night into Sunday morning in the ballroom of the Arlington Hotel, scene of their senior prom. "It's just like 1964 when we did it the first time," classmate David Leopoulos said as the private party rocked toward midnight. "He's dancing with everyone. He's taking part in everything just as if there's nothing else going on in the world." Security was tight but not stifling as Secret Service agents closed off the hotel's second floor. The crowd of more than 300 began gathering before 7 p.m. Saturday. Mr. Clinton arrived around 8:30 p.m. and spent 20 minutes posing for pictures and exchanging hugs and slaps on the back from old classmates. He eventually got into the swing of things, mingling with old friends and dancing occasionally as a disc jockey played "twist and shout" and other pop hits from the '60s.